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## Return to full-scale violence feared

# 1,000 troops flying to join Ulster forces

By NICHOLAS WATT, AUDREY MAGEE and ARTHUR LEATHLEY

MORE than 1,000 extra troops are to be flown to Northern Ireland amid fears that the widespread loyalist disturbances will trigger a resumption of IRA terrorism.

Two infantry battalions are expected to arrive within days to support the RUC as loyalists attempt to paralyse the province. The move will bring troop numbers up to 18,500, the highest since 1982.

John Major last night pleaded with Unionist political leaders to show restraint and denounced the violence on the streets as "indefensible".

The Prime Minister, who defended the "operational" decision by Sir Hugh Annesley, the RUC Chief Constable, to block an Orange Order march outside Portadown, Co Armagh, underlined the need for talks during an hour-long meeting with David Trimble, Ian Paisley and Robert McCartney, the loyalist leaders. He warned them to avoid inflaming the troubles in the run-up to Friday's climax of the marching season.

Mr Paisley emerged from the meeting to claim that the troubles at Drumcree were "a powderkeg" and demanded that the decisions to stop the march should be reversed. "The Prime Minister unfortunately believes that the Chief Constable did right, and until the Prime Minister changes that, I cannot see any resolution to what is going on. I am afraid to say that that is my view."

The decision to increase troop numbers came as senior security sources voiced fears

that Northern Ireland could be on the brink of a return to full-scale sectarian violence. One source said: "It is looking very bleak. We could be days away from disaster."

Senior security sources are concerned that the IRA will use the stand-off between hundreds of Orangemen and armed police outside Portadown, and the intimidation of Roman Catholic families in Belfast and Londonderry, as an excuse to resume violence. One source highlighted the apparent sectarian murder of a Roman Catholic taxi driver in Lurgan on Monday morning as a watershed.

The Orange Order has threatened to bring Northern Ireland to a "standstill". They are planning parades in contentious areas, including along the Walls of Londonderry, in an attempt to stretch the security forces.

Armed RUC officers had to deal with the Province's worst rioting for years on Monday night. Roman Catholic families were forced to flee their homes in Belfast and Londonderry after sectarian abuse from loyalists. Police also fired plastic bullets at demonstrators in Belfast and loyalists blocked the main road to Belfast International Airport.

Jeffrey Donaldson, the Assistant Grand Master of the Orange Order, said Orangemen had not organised the roadblocks. But asked on BBC Radio 4's *The World at One* whether Orangemen had joined the protests, he said: "That is probably correct... It

is correct to say that because of the strength of our membership there are many things we can do. If necessary, in support of the Orangemen at Portadown, we will bring Northern Ireland to a standstill."

The Primate of the Church of Ireland condemned the violence and called on loyalists and nationalists in Portadown to reach agreement. Dr Robin Eames, who yesterday visited the Orangemen at Drumcree, said: "There is no excuse whatsoever for the sort of nightmare we have experienced across this Province during the past night. Protests on either side will be utterly diluted by the sort of behaviour we have seen — trying to bring this Province to its knees again by the violence and by the burnings."

Dr Eames, who received a guarded reception at Drumcree, said he sympathised with nationalists and loyalists. He said Orangemen felt that the RUC decision to re-route their traditional parade away from the nationalist Garvaghy estate was an erosion of their ethos.

But Dr Eames, who tried to mediate between the two sides before the latest stand-off, called on the Orangemen to recognise that Portadown had changed since Orangemen first marched in 1807.

He said: "I am appealing for reasonableness and not a situation in which year in, year out we have..."

IRA accused, page 9  
Leading article, page 17



The Queen and President Mandela acknowledge the warm reception from thousands who lined The Mall yesterday at the start of the state visit

## Magnetic Mandela draws the crowds

By ALAN HAMILTON

PRESIDENT Mandela of South Africa was welcomed to London at the start of a four-day state visit yesterday by crowds the size of which have not been seen for a touring statesman since the days of Mikhail Gorbachev and the Pope.

Spectators crowded five deep along the pavements of The Mall to see Mr Mandela and the Queen ride in an open carriage procession to Buckingham Palace. An estimated 6,000 people filled the arena of Horse Guards Parade to witness his formal welcome, as the Royal Standard flew with the national flag of the new South Africa, and the band of the Irish Guards played the

new South African national anthem, which includes a few bars of the old.

Buckingham Palace officials, delighted at the public welcome given to a statesman who is particularly admired by the Queen, speculated that the turnout to see the South African President could have been the largest accorded to any visiting head of state since the advent of television caused people to stay at home.

Mr Mandela is the first South African President to make a state visit to Britain, although in the colonial days before and during the Second World War, the Prime Minister Jan Smuts was a frequent visitor to London and a close friend of King George VI. This week's visit is in return for the

Queen's state visit to South Africa last year, which celebrated the country's new multi-racial constitution, its return to the Commonwealth, and the Queen's personal regard for Mr Mandela.

The President has brought with him a large and high-powered political and business delegation anxious to seek substantial foreign investment in South Africa to help ease the massive economic problems it still faces. Much of Mr Mandela's programme will be taken up with meeting British business and financial leaders in the hope of persuading them to invest yet more in his country. Britain is already the biggest foreign investor in South Africa.

But yesterday, it was the

magnetic personality of the President which drew the crowds. Among those on The Mall was John Gevisser, aged 27, a South African now living in London, who was waving the green, yellow and black flag of the African National Congress.

"I used to demonstrate outside South Africa House for Mandela's release," he said. "Now to have him as President in England as guest of the Queen is fantastic, the greatest compliment we South Africans can have from Britain."

Last night Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother joined The Queen and a large representation of the Royal Family at a state banquet last night in honour of President Mandela in the grand surroundings of

the Buckingham Palace ballroom.

The Queen Mother, who will be 96 next month, was attending her first banquet for a visiting head of state since the King of Malaysia came to London in 1993. Her presence was a historic nod towards her own visit to South Africa in 1947, but also an indication that The Queen is striving to give Mr Mandela the highest possible degree of welcome.

A total of 156 guests sat down to sole, turkey, and raspberries, accompanied by Louis Roederer champagne and 1993 Hamilton Russell, a South African Chardonnay.

Historic visit, page 4  
Mandela matters, page 15  
Simon Jenkins, page 16

## Voluntary ID card wins backing from Cabinet

By RICHARD FORD AND PHILIP WEBSTER

MICHAEL HOWARD is planning to introduce a voluntary national identity card scheme based on the new photocard driving licence that comes into use next year.

The Home Secretary has won the support of his colleagues for a credit-card-sized plastic document that will serve as a driving licence, an identity card and a travel pass throughout the European Union. He is expected to introduce a Bill proposing it at the next session of Parliament.

The Bill is required to authorise a fee for the new card and to address technical aspects. Details of the scheme will be announced by Mr Howard next month. The Labour leadership is expected to take a relaxed attitude towards it because it is voluntary rather than compulsory. The Government hopes that

by "twinning" the new driving licence to the identity card, the latter concept will become acceptable to the public. The card will be priced at a relatively low amount of between £10 and £15. Ministers want the fee to be less than the present £21 cost of a driving licence so as to increase its appeal to the public.

Mr Howard is anxious to push through a Bill to show that the Government has moved on the controversial issue. If a general election is called before it is passed, it will figure high in the Tory manifesto.

The scheme will involve the issuing of three types of card: the first is a combined driving licence and identity card; the second, a sole driving licence available to foreign nationals and to those who do not want to carry an identity card; and

the third is an identity card without a driving licence for the non-drivers.

The new photocard driving licence will carry the words "Identity Card" across the top of the plastic document and will indicate that the holder is a British national.

The new licence will be phased in from February with new applicants receiving it first. A programme replacing the existing 35 million licences will also begin next year.

Last week, the Home Affairs Select Committee unanimously backed a voluntary identity card scheme but urged the Government to allow a full discussion of the implications of it for civil liberties.

Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, and Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, have been opposed on libertarian grounds.

## Man arrested over machete attack

By ADRIAN LEE, JOANNA BALE AND DAVID CHARTER

A MAN was arrested last night in connection the machete attack at a Wolverhampton infants school.

Police stormed a tower block overlooking the school at 7.20 pm after a plain-clothes officer spotted a suspect in a corridor on the ninth floor.



Campbell: sought by police for questioning

Officers in protective clothing had spent 20 hours working their way through the 12-storey block, where the suspect was last seen. Police had earlier said that they were seeking a 32-year-old man who lived in the block, Horrett Campbell, to question about the attack on children, parents and staff at St Luke's Infant School, Blakenhall.

Six people were still being treated in hospital last night as it became clear that only the intervention of parents and staff had avoided an atrocity.

The Home Secretary yesterday promised fresh powers for head teachers to protect schools against intruders. Under these, heads will be able to take out injunctions against people loitering around the school gates.

Screaming pupils, page 3  
Leading article, page 17

## Grumpy old devils are short of sex hormones

By JEREMY LAURANCE  
HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

PSYCHIATRISTS believe they can explain what every grandchild knows: women grow old gracefully while men grow old irascibly.

Researchers say that the difference between the sexes can be traced to the way their brains age and the influence of sex hormones on levels of brain chemicals. Studies show that women

tend to become forgetful and confused about time and place as they age while men become irritable and impulsive. Now researchers at the Institute of Psychiatry say that studies of Alzheimer sufferers show that women tend to lose their memory and their capacity to manipulate objects in space sooner than men. These abilities are controlled by the hippocampus at the base of the brain and the parietal lobes at the back.

Dr Declan Murphy, consultant psychiatrist and senior lecturer at the Institute, told an international meeting of psychiatrists in London yesterday that the cause of the differences was likely to be the decline in sex hormones and the influence of the sex chromosome having a particular effect on the hippocampus and the parietal lobes.

"The disadvantage for women is that they lose more of their brain tissue in

the areas affected by Alzheimer's but the good news is that they may have the means to do something about it — with hormone replacement therapy." HRT may also protect men against the mental effects of ageing, but with the male sex hormone, testosterone, substituted for the female hormone oestrogen, said Professor George Fink of the Medical Research Council in Edinburgh. "It's certainly worth investigating."



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3-10 August  
11-11 August  
15-18 August  
5-8 September  
14 September

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# Grand Father of the House unbends a little

Sir Edward actually smiled. Independent witnesses attest to the fact. The previous confirmed sighting came in 1990, when Mrs Thatcher fell and he smiled continuously for a week. Then impassively settled and the great statesman resumed his imitation of an unmissable bayonetted dummy.

But now another verified instance can be added to the record. At 15.08 hours BST on July 9, 1996, the great man's lips parted slightly. A second later both corners of his mouth twitched, then pulled backwards and up. Tiny crows' feet, furrows unfurrowed for years, wrinkled into action by his noble eyes. Across that

majestic visage spread what can only be called A BIG SMILE.

On and on it went. Up in the Peers' Gallery sat his friends: Lords Prior, Whitelaw, Pym and more. In the Distinguished Strangers' Gallery sat five Arab sheiks, all in pink-chequered headresses, all with moustaches, all with beards, and one with dark glasses.

Sir Edward Heath tried a small bow such as a retired circus bear attempting a comeback after stiffened joints and far too many buns might execute. Then, still grinning, he lowered himself into the usual place — front bench below the gangway — with the slow, gingerly movement, not unmixed with pleasure, we



**MATTHEW PARRIS**  
POLITICAL SKETCH

might observe in someone lowering his bottom into a hot bath.

It was Sir Edward's 80th birthday. Our most senior surviving former Prime Minister, Father of the House (the longest continuously serving MP), as well as the oldest Member, has been in the Commons for 46 years — as many as your sketchwriter has been in this world.

He had entered the chamber all neatly dressed in an immaculate charcoal suit, silk tie and shiny shoes, his white hair

brushed up into a shimmering meringue, like one of those cumulus clouds catching the sun on a late afternoon. A great, dignified cheer had risen from all sides of the chamber. Beaming Betty Boothroyd, who discourages MPs from cheering, had made no attempt to stop them.

A man of Sir Edward's sublimity and renown does not need to speak on such occasions. If he had wished to put a Question to the Prime Minister he would of course have succeeded in catching

Madam Speaker's eye. But such is his eminence that it would have been inappropriate for him to have uttered anything that ended in a question mark. It is a pity that Commons procedure does not provide for the Prime Minister to ask questions of Sir Edward instead. *Father of the House's Question Time* would make a change.

But instead he simply sat, silent, for 17 minutes, in the place where he has sat for 17 years, occasionally resting his eyes. Voters who will soon vote for the first time in a general election were being born when he first settled there.

It was a Question Time like any other this last decade and a half. Miss Boothroyd

ordered MPs to stop treating the session like a mob watching Roman gladiators, and MPs proceeded to treat it precisely thus. John Major was in confident, ranting drone, Tony Blair in powerful bleat, nothing was asked, nothing was answered, and a good time was had by all.

After it was over, David Shaw (C, Dover) rose behind Sir Edward with a venomous little Ten Minute Rule Bill to launch. Sir Edward twisted himself round from the torso, infinitely slowly, and with a look of blank horror, stared at Mr Shaw as might one observe a beetle's presence on a rock. Then he rose as slowly as he had sat, and lumbered out. The smile was over, for now.

## Economic outlook is rosy, says Chancellor

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

KENNETH CLARKE forecast a rosy economic outlook yesterday as he shrugged off disappointing borrowing figures that have further limited his scope for tax cuts in the November Budget.

The Chancellor delivered an upbeat forecast in which his message to Tory MPs appeared to be that expected rises in personal incomes — rather than reductions in income tax — were the key to electoral recovery.

Mr Clarke said that living standards were rising, the housing market would continue to recover, inflation would fall below the Government's sub-2.5 per cent target later this year and dole queues would go on shrinking.

He said: "People will spend more as their income and wealth are boosted by recent tax cuts, lower mortgage rates, rising house and equity prices and windfall gains."

Ministers are placing strong emphasis on the expected £20 billion of equity payouts to savers in building societies as they merge or convert to banks during the coming months.

Mr Clarke again played down the likelihood of substantial tax cuts in the autumn, and suggested that only a handful of Tories were "baying" for them.

He said: "I could name four or five people for whom that is true," but the overwhelming bulk of the party was happy with the prudent recovery he had produced.

As expected Mr Clarke

downgraded his growth forecast from 3 per cent to 2.5 per cent and said that borrowing was £4.5 billion higher than expected.

Mr Clarke added that government borrowing, hit by a surprising shortfall in tax receipts, particularly VAT, was still on a downward trend and would fall to £23 billion in 1997-98.

Tony Blair seized on the figures to accuse the Tories of being "untrustworthy and incompetent" over their handling of the economy. In exchanges with John Major in the Commons he demanded an explanation for the "appalling state of the public finances".

Mr Major accused the Labour leader of running Britain down on every possible occasion. Britain had the lowest inflation for 50 years, the lowest mortgage rates for 30 years, the lowest basic tax rate for 50 years and unemployment had been falling for the past four years. He said of Mr Blair: "He should stop living in a world of his own."

Mr Clarke told a press conference at Westminster that a recovery in the housing market was well under way and there were good reasons to expect it to continue. With mortgage rates at their lowest for 30 years and house prices low, "houses remain very affordable and real incomes are increasing", he said.

Leading article, page 17  
Bank attacked, page 25  
Pennington, page 27



Protestant demonstrators are forced to stand behind police barbed wire barricades in Drumcree yesterday

## More troops join Ulster peace forces

Continued from page 1

out, we are going to face this sort of crisis. We have got to reach some sort of agreement whereby the rights and the privileges of the two communities are recognised."

Mr Major said in the Commons that the scenes of violence were "indefensible". He said: "The search for peace in

Northern Ireland will certainly not be assisted by such behaviour. It could well be put back... and that is emphatically in my judgment not the wish of the people of Northern Ireland. What is needed at the moment is dialogue to make sure that we can move forward from the present situation, which is doing nothing but causing misery and hardship and dam-

age. And we need that dialogue speedily so that a resolution can be reached."

Mr McCartney, the UK Unionist MP for North Down, said the crisis was "escalating all the time and is a possible source of ignition right across the province".

Leading article, page 17

## Churches urged to find unity

By Ruth Gledhill

MEMBERS of the Church of England and the Methodist Church are to be invited to move towards "visible unity". But intractable difficulties between the two Churches make a full merger impossible, according to a report published yesterday.

The report, the result of informal talks between members of each Church, recommends the setting up of formal talks to address differences between the two. The disagreements, which centre mainly on the episcopacy, mean the Churches are unlikely to be officially merged for the foreseeable future but they could soon be united in every practical sense.

The report, *Commitment to Mission and Unity*, proposes a "gradual integration" of ministries.

MICHAEL HOWARD won an important legal victory yesterday when the High Court upheld his decision to impose an 18-year minimum sentence on a man jailed for life for his part in the murder of a prostitute.

Two judges ruled that Mr Howard acted within his "very wide discretion" when, contrary to a jury's verdict, he decided that Robert Causabon Vincent was involved with an accomplice in a contract killing of Christine Offord, known as "Miss Whiplash".

The jury found him guilty of murder, but did not find that there had been a contract killing involving Offord's lesbian lover.

However, Mr Howard said the "tariff" the minimum jail term to be served by Vincent before being considered for parole, should reflect the fact

that there had been a contract killing.

Upholding his decision, Lord Justice Russell, sitting with Mr Justice Scott Baker, rejected the argument that the Home Secretary "could not go behind the verdict of the jury".

The case raises important issues of principle in relation to the jury system which will now be tested in the Court of Appeal after Lord Justice Russell gave Vincent leave to appeal.

Vincent, 51, had sought to overturn his tariff on the grounds that it had been arrived at by "an unlawful process". He was jailed at the Old Bailey ten years ago for murdering Offord, a prostitute who specialised in sex torture, found naked and tied face down in the bath at her flat in Kensington, west London, in April 1985. Her

voice box had been crushed with an iron bar.

Lord Justice Russell said the prosecution alleged that the murder was a contract killing at the behest of Offord's lesbian lover Margaret Dunbar, 40, also a prostitute, after the couple fell out.

It was claimed that Dunbar had recruited Vincent, of Littlehampton, West Sussex, and Barry Parsons, 53, of Worthing, West Sussex, to carry out the killing. Defence lawyers argued that Dunbar recruited the two men to "rough up" her girlfriend but they had "gone too far". Both men were jailed for life.

Dunbar, who had a torture chamber in her flat in Cornwall Gardens, South Kensington, was acquitted of murder but jailed for seven years for manslaughter. She was later freed by the Court of Appeal.

## High Court backs Howard over murder sentence

By Frances Gibb, Legal Correspondent

## Director found guilty

The director of an old people's home in Glasgow has been ordered to be struck off for serious professional misconduct. The General Medical Council's professional conduct committee said that Radha Gobinda Sarkar, 63, had shown "a culpable disregard" for the health and welfare of those in his care. Witnesses told a hearing in London that the Glasgow home was cold, residents received inadequate food and were often left unwashed.

## Cars no test for thieves

The RAC called for tougher tests on security systems after a survey by *What Car?* magazine showed that all but two of Britain's best-selling cars could be broken into within two minutes. The exceptions were the British-built Ford Fiesta and Range Rover. However, because of engine immobiliser systems, the magazine's team — armed with common do-it-yourself tools — could start only 30 of the 70 models within five minutes of getting into the car.

## Carey seeks truce

The Archbishop of Canterbury called for closer links between psychiatrists and the clergy, urging them to abandon a tradition of mutual distrust and rivalry and arguing that mentally ill patients would be helped if more attention was paid to the spiritual side of recovery (Ruth Gledhill writes). Dr George Carey told the Royal College of Psychiatrists in London the mistrust can "harm those we both seek to help".

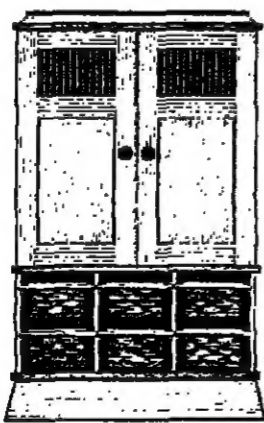
## Bedroom and board

A racing enthusiast has bought a redundant 60-year-old brick Tote indicator board from Caterick racecourse and plans to convert into a one-bedroom house. Greville Worthington, who lives nearby at Brough Park and runs the non-racing activities at Caterick, said: "It is part of the history of the racecourse. It would have been a great shame to see it just knocked down."

## Madeira hotel sold

Reid's Hotel, an English-owned five-star hotel in Madeira, has been sold to the company Sea Containers for £19 million. Reid's was said to be a perfect complement to the 13 hotels, three tourist trains, two restaurants and cruise ship operated by the company's subsidiary Orient-Express Hotels. The 171-room hotel, perched on a cliff on the edge of Funchal bay, opened in 1891.

## SMALLBONE of DEVICES



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## Yorkshire Water in 'false' figures row

By Paul Wilkinson

YORKSHIRE WATER was accused yesterday of falsifying rainfall figures to justify its case for a drought order. Documents provided by the company to a public inquiry examining its request to increase the amount of water it can take from a river showed peak levels up to 25 per cent less than the actual readings.

After objectors disclosed the discrepancy, Yorkshire Water admitted that it had amended the figure because it believed that it was a freak reading. The company

then agreed to accept the real figures. Mark Kelly, freshwater issues officer with Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, which is opposing the application on environmental grounds, said: "This is a scandal. The trust deplores falsification of data in support of the application. I cannot deny it is very dry in the region, but to falsify data is a very, very naughty thing to do."

Yorkshire Water is seeking permission from the Department of the Environment to take additional supplies from the River Hull to ensure there is no repeat of last summer's drought crisis. The figures

relate to readings at the Langsett rain gauge in South Yorkshire. The company wants to show that levels there are so low it needs supplies from the river to serve the area.

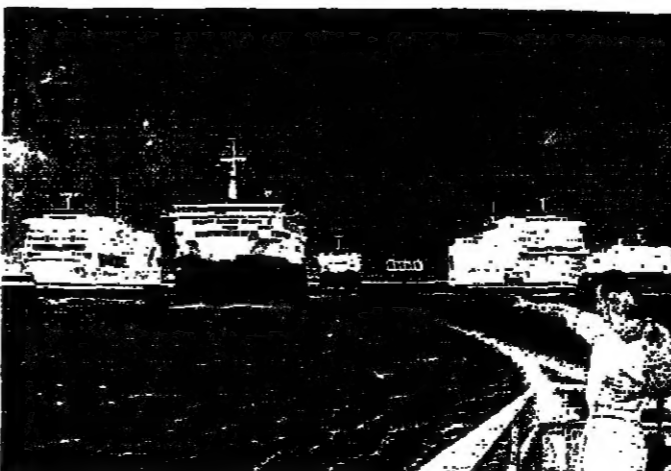
Official figures from the environment agency show that 138.4 millimetres of rain fell there last September, but Yorkshire Water's technical submission indicated the figure at 100.4mm.

The report's author, Ian Stevens, resource manager for Yorkshire Water, told the inquiry that he was investigating the discrepancy.

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# Attacker left bloody trail through school after first striking waiting mother with machete

## Screaming pupils sought sanctuary in cupboard

By JOANNA BALE

SCHOOL staff and parents told yesterday how a laughing maniac pursued them with a machete as they rescued children from his path. Adults locked themselves into cupboards and classrooms with pupils as the attacker traced a bloody route through St Luke's Church of England infants' school in Wolverhampton.

Yesterday three children and two women were still being treated in hospital after the attack on Tuesday. One child had a fractured skull.

Lisa Potts, 21, a nursery nurse, suffered deep wounds to her arms, hands, back and chest as she pushed one boy into a cupboard and snatched two screaming infants into her arms to protect them.

Speaking at New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton, after several hours of surgery to repair a broken arm and damaged tendons, she said: "At about 3.15pm we lined up the children to take them back into the nursery to get them ready to go home. I saw a man come round the side of the school fence and then I saw a woman lying on the ground. The man was carrying a bag and what I thought was a plastic knife. It was dull, it did not have a shiny blade."

"He was laughing and he came towards me, then I heard screaming and I snatched a child under each arm and ran into the nursery, but he prodded my back and hit me. I did not know I was injured, there was blood all over the place and I did not know it was mine. I pushed one of the little boys into a cupboard in the classroom."

Despite her injuries Miss Potts returned to the playground. "I went back outside and threw the children to the ground. The teacher was trying to look after them. I saw the man bending over a little boy, pushed him out of the way and ran back to the nursery."

A mother, Philippa Parlor, 25, bundled three children into a cupboard and climbed in after them. One of the children screamed out and the man began wrenching at the handles.

Her husband, Chris, said: "He kept tugging at the doors and my wife hung on to them for dear life. She said that fear



Lisa Potts ignored her own injuries to protect children from the attacker. The machete-wielding man arrived at the school at 3.15pm

for the children's safety gave her the strength to hold the doors shut. Then the knifeman suddenly stopped and left."

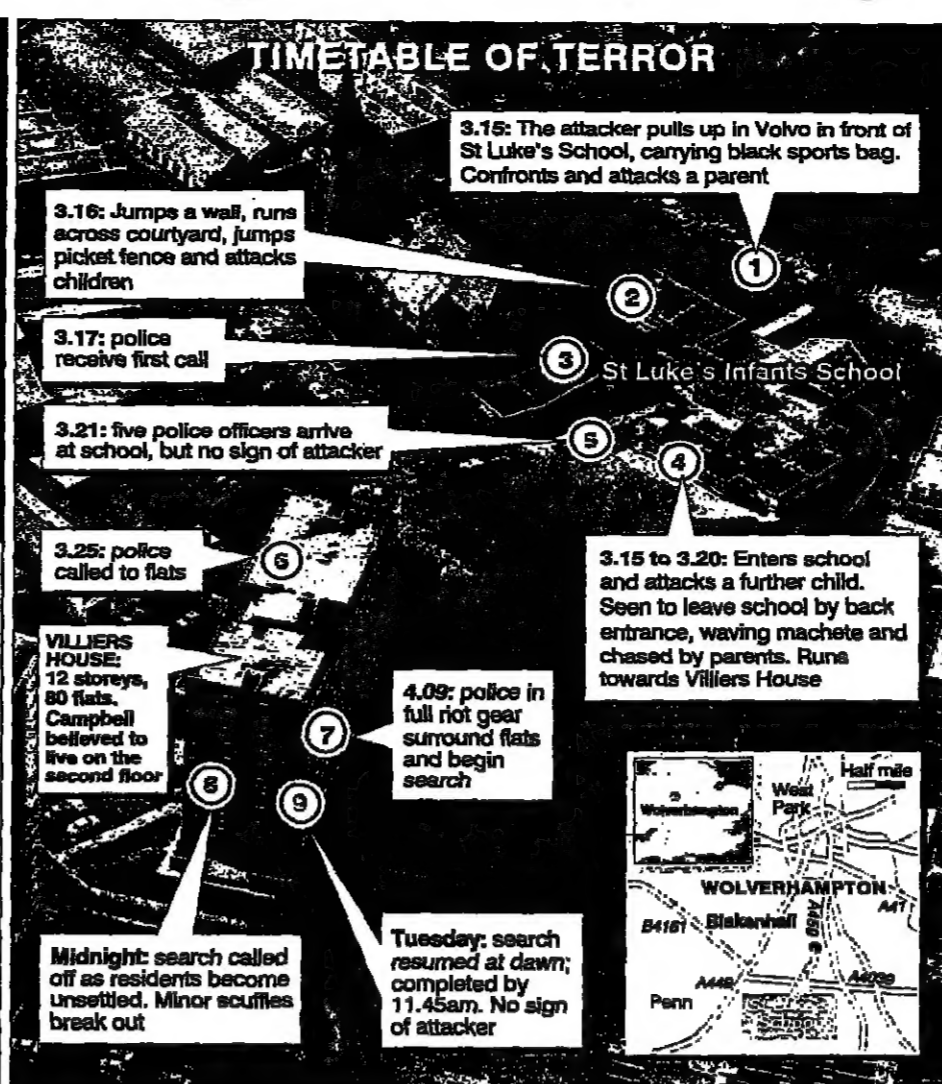
Mr and Mrs Parlor had been helping at the teddy bears' picnic attended by their children, Emma, 3, and Ben, 2. Mr Parlor said that the attacker had first leaned over the playground fence and tried to grab a child, then leapt over and grabbed Emma, but Mrs Parlor pushed him away.

The attacker's first victim was Wendy Willington, 29, who was registering her son at the nursery. She suffered a fractured jaw and deep head cuts. "I heard a scream and saw a man swinging a machete. He came at me suddenly and as I turned away he hit me on the back of my head. I

fell over but struggled to my feet and then rushed over to protect my little boy. All I could do was lie on top of him."

Diane Reynolds, who was collecting her five-year-old son Ricky, saw the man take a knife from a bag and attack Mrs Willington. Mrs Reynolds, 23, ran to her son's classroom but was followed by the attacker. "I grabbed Ricky and then locked the door to stop the man coming in. The teacher was shaking with shock and fear and kids were in hysterics. The man was thumping on the door and we could see him through the glass. He was standing there expressionless and calm."

Mrs Reynolds' husband Darryl, 24, said the scene



Ahmed Malik, who was injured in the attack

## Security had been increased after London stabbing

By ADRIAN LEE

ST LUKE'S Infants' School, in Wolverhampton, was regarded as one of the safest in the city. Security had been upgraded in the past few months in the aftermath of the killing of the London head teacher Philip Lawrence but before Dunblane.

Extra alarms, security lights and internal and external locks on doors had been installed as part of a £60,000 package to make Wolverhampton's schools safer.

Shrubs and trees in the grounds had been dug up to eliminate hiding places for intruders. In response to a recent questionnaire to schools, conducted by the education authority, the head teacher of St Luke's, Denise Bennett, said she was satisfied with security.

Roy Lockwood, director of education for Wolverhampton Borough Council, said: "If you had asked me beforehand if this was a safe and secure environment, I would have said yes. It is a place where I would have been happy to send my own children."

The school boundary is either fenced or walled. A working party, set up by the council, was due to meet yesterday on further security measures. Mr Lockwood praised the

resilience of staff, who attended school yesterday to be interviewed by police. "The whole community should be proud of them. All the people on the site behaved extremely bravely."

Yesterday Mrs Bennett was still clearly distressed. She appeared close to tears as she spoke about what had happened: "It was horrendous. There were distressed people and children bleeding, there was a lot of blood. It was a scene I hope we never see again." Of the attacker she said: "I feel he probably needs help."

The Rev Tim Anderson, the vicar of St Luke's, spoke to some of the injured yesterday, and said: "Clearly they are shocked and hurt and will now need considerable pastoral support in the days to come. Christ said, 'I will weep with those who weep' and we will reflect that. Our responsibility is to understand this and to find comfort in Christ."

West Midlands police are investigating the stabbing of a 12-year-old boy by another pupil during morning break at the Lyndon School, Olton, Solihull. The victim was released from hospital, and no arrest had been made yesterday.

## Dunblane dead 'paid ultimate price' of right to own guns

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE families of the children who were killed and injured in the Dunblane tragedy spoke publicly for the first time yesterday about their loss and called for a total ban on guns.

Close to tears, one father said that the children had paid the "ultimate price" for people's right to own guns. "Guns are made to kill people. They should not be allowed in a civilised society," said John Crozier, whose daughter Emma, aged 5, died.

"I think my daughter's right to live is more important than any right to shoot a gun. She should never — the children should never — have been killed like this."

The families of five of the victims held a press conference on the penultimate day of the six-week Dunblane inquiry into the massacre of 16

children and their teacher by Thomas Hamilton.

Karen Turner, whose daughter Megan, 5, was killed, said the parents had helped each other after the tragedy. "The support we get from each other is tremendous. If we have a bad day we can pick up the phone and phone somebody else, or pop in to see them."

Pamela Ross, whose daughter Joanna, also 5, was killed, said: "Many people have said we have shown extraordinary courage and dignity and have asked how we have begun to cope. For us the simple answer is we are only beginning to learn to live with the reality of what has devastated our lives."

"Each day we live with the loss we have suffered, and nothing in future will ever allow us to feel that our lives

are complete. There will never be a point at which we can say we are coping and everything is fine again."

Mr Crozier said he had been too busy grieving for his daughter to think much about school security, but the events in Wolverhampton on Monday added to the impetus for change. "When I think of what happened just with a knife at Wolverhampton, something drastic needs to be done."

He added: "Our children have paid the price for society's need to be able to target shoot and to shoot rabbits and foxes."

Kenny Ross, Joanna's father, said: "We want a complete ban on all firearms but the very least we'll accept is a total ban on handguns."

Mary Blake, one of the two teachers injured, said she had

been unable to work since. "I've been back to visit and I found it very stressful. I couldn't go back to Dunblane Primary School to work."

The lawyer acting for the families of the victims directly blamed the police for the killings. He also said the machete attack in Wolverhampton was further evidence that a gun ban was needed. Colin Campbell, QC, said the attack at St Luke's Church of England Infants' School would have been far worse if the man had carried a gun.

Mr Campbell condemned Central Scotland Police for its "woeful inadequacy" in handling applications for gun licences. "But for the culpable failure by Central Scotland Police, it is probable that the events of March 13 would not have occurred."

## Girl like Jade was seen with bike boy

By KATE ALDERSON

DETECTIVES investigating the death of Jade Matthews, the nine-year-old girl found murdered on a railway siding, disclosed yesterday that a girl fitting her description was seen being pushed on a mountain bike by a boy aged about 13. She had a slight injury to her forehead and blood on her teeth.

Detective Superintendent Geoff MacDonald said: "That is the main focus of our inquiry." The girl was seen about 5.25pm on Sunday in an underpass a mile from Jade's home in Bootle, Merseyside, that leads to the sidings. She was on a black bike. Jade was found at 1.20am on Monday. She had been battered to death.

Mr MacDonald, who is heading the murder inquiry, said that Jade's father, Allan Priest, who was arrested on Monday morning, had been released without charge yesterday. Two 17-year-old youths who voluntarily went to a police station on Monday night are still in custody.

Police emphasised they were being questioned as part of routine enquiries. Detectives also renewed their ap



Denise Matthews pleading for information yesterday

peal to trace three boys aged 9 or 10 who were seen near the siding at 9pm on Sunday.

Jade's mother made a tearful plea yesterday for her only child's killers to be brought to justice. Denise Matthews, 31, gasped for breath as she pleaded for help in tracking them down.

"On Sunday evening it was light, somebody somewhere must have seen Jade at some time, or even a little girl who maybe looked like Jade, who maybe wore similar clothing," she said. "Someone has got to

be caught for this. I don't want any other woman or any parent or family member to go through what my family has gone through. They have got to be brought to justice. Because this is evil, what has happened. This person is evil."

Jade lived with her mother and stepfather, Stephen Matthews. Her mother said: "She just loved to be involved with people and she just loved kids. She just wanted to be with other people."

Mr MacDonald said the description of the girl fitted

Jade's physical characteristics but her clothing was not the same as the blue jeans and pink sweatshirt that Jade wore when she left home. "It could be Jade or another little girl," he said. "I am anxious to trace that girl or anyone who saw the incident." The girl had not appeared to be under duress.

He said he was still looking for the three boys who were seen about 9pm on Sunday. They were leaving the car park next to a Securicor building which overlooks the railway line and then entered the sidings. One boy was heard shouting to the others: "Hang on."

Jade was last seen playing with three boys near her home at 4pm. She was seen walking away from the boys before disappearing. Police are still anxious for information regarding her movements, despite a good response from the public.

The siding is half a mile from the Strand shopping centre where James Bulger was abducted before being murdered by Jon Venables and Robert Thompson in February 1993. The two-year-old's body was found on a railway line in Walton two miles away.

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Palace banquet for Mandela brought forward after early morning stroll

# Early to rise to see the Queen, and early to bed

By ALAN HAMILTON

LONDON was barely awake yesterday when Nelson Mandela began the first day of his historic state visit with an official and hardly noticed stroll in the park at 5.15am.

The first black President of South Africa, and the first President of any colour of that country to be received as an honoured guest of the Queen, had flown in from Johannesburg late the previous night. He had booked a night in the Dorchester to recover from the journey before the formal proceedings began.

The president was up with the lark and, wearing a South African Olympic squad tracksuit, was driven across Park Lane for a leisurely stroll in Hyde Park. He was not, of course, alone: strolling with him were four bodyguards and a South African High Commission official; two police cars crawled near by.

Mr Mandela is nothing if not recognisable. The few people about at that hour stopped to shake his hand and welcome him to London. "I'm very pleased to be here," he told them.

It was a gentle re-introduction to a London Mr Mandela knows well. As the most wanted man in South Africa, he was smuggled into in 1962 and wandered unmolested around the capital.

The difference between then and now became abundantly clear at 12.20pm in the foyer of the Dorchester. The Princess Royal and her husband, Captain Timothy Laurence, arrived to conduct Mr Mandela to his official welcome in one of the Queen's Rolls-Royces. A man serving 27 years' detention under a white apartheid regime could hardly have dreamt of such an outcome.

They drove, a barely-noticed convoy of two cars, to Horse Guards Parade, the cars sending up a cloud of dust from the gravel of the kind that Land Rovers send up on safari in Kruger National Park. Every seat in Horse Guards was full. Police esti-

mated that 6,000 people, many of them schoolchildren or members of London's extensive South African community, crammed into every available space to watch the arrival ceremony.

Mr Mandela arrived precisely on schedule at 12.40. The Queen, who had arrived separately a few minutes earlier, beamed broadly as her visitor drew up. Some state visits may be a chore for her, but this one is patently an unalloyed pleasure.

Mr Mandela, now dressed in a smart dark lounge suit, stepped stiffly from his car. He is tall, handsome, very erect, but 78 years old, and he moves with care. From the second car stepped his daughter, Princess Zenzani Mandela-Dlamini, dressed in a purple suit with matching hat. The Queen looked particularly sumptuous in a yellow silk and cotton basket-weave dress. She smiled broadly as Mr Mandela gave her a long, lingering handshake. In the

Some state visits may be a chore for the Queen. This one is an unalloyed pleasure?

distance, gun salutes rumbled from Green Park and the Tower of London. The crowd around the parade ground cheered lustily, and schoolchildren chanted the president's name.

Introduced to John Major, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary Malcolm Rifkind, service chiefs, lord mayors and the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, Mr Mandela had a handshake and a "How are you?" for them all. They all seemed touched to have met him,

judging by the way their smiles lingered.

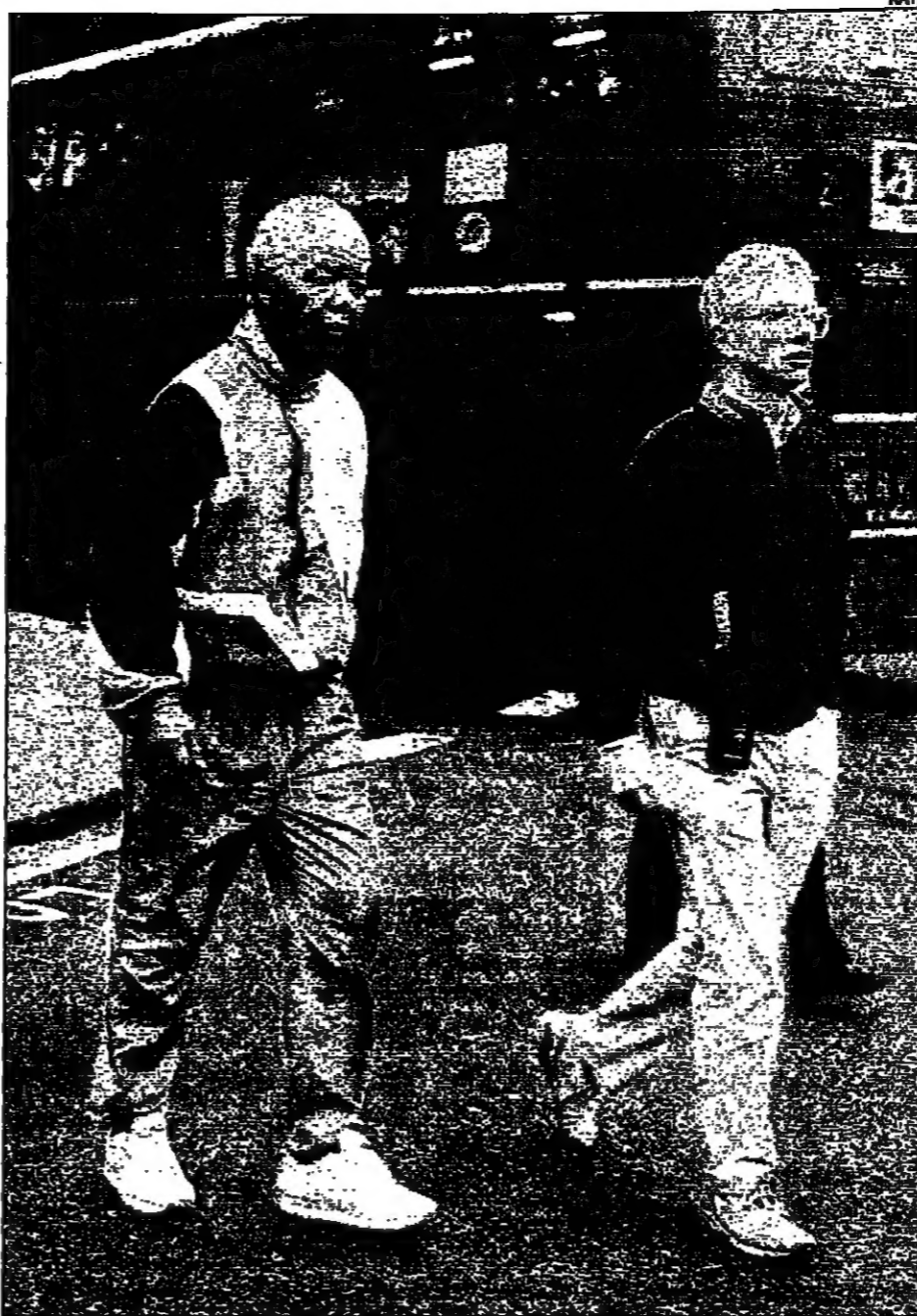
Mr Mandela stood alongside the Queen, with his right hand across his heart, as the band of the Irish Guards played the national anthem of the new South Africa, *Nkosi Sikelele Afrika* (God Bless Africa). With a hint of difficulty, they both climbed into the 1902 state landau for the ceremonial drive to Buckingham Palace.

Once on board, they smiled and chatted easily and acknowledged the enthusiasm of a crowd the like of which has not been seen for a state visitor since Mikhail Gorbachev visited London at the height of his power and popularity. Once inside the palace, the heads of state exchanged gifts. The Queen gave Mr Mandela an eight-volume set of Dr Johnson's edition of Shakespeare, while Mr Mandela presented in return a set of South African gold commemorative coins, and a magnificently carved African chess set. The Queen was relieved; at the end of her South African tour last year King Goodwill of the Zulus presented her with a large and exceedingly live white bull. Mr Mandela and the Queen then sat down to a private lunch of asparagus, Scottish salmon and summer pudding.

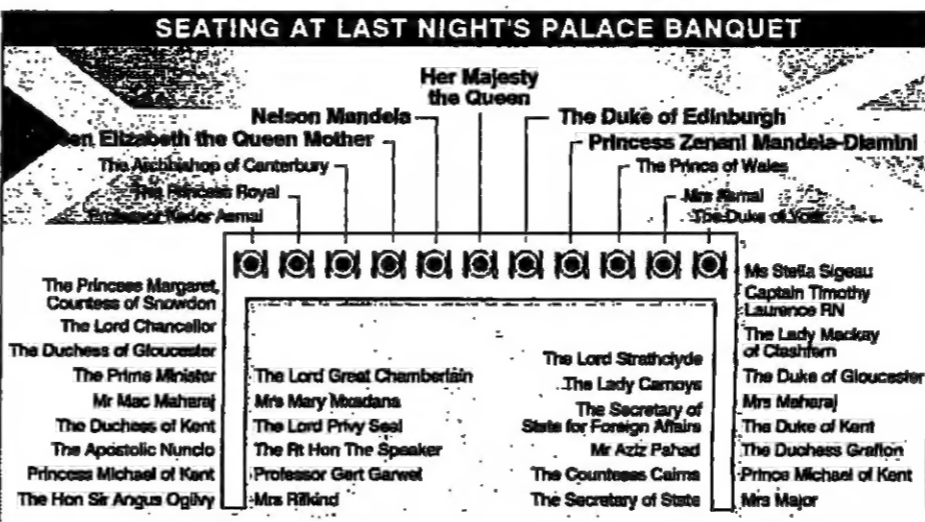
Later in the day, Mr Mandela called on Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother for afternoon tea, then went to Westminster Abbey to lay a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier, a call on the itinerary of all state visitors.

For a man who had risen at 5am after a long flight from Johannesburg, Mr Mandela needed the two-hour respite in his programme before attending last night's state banquet in Buckingham Palace. It was brought forward by half an hour from the usual time. Mr Mandela has told the Queen that he likes to be in bed by ten.

Simon Jenkins, page 16



Mr Mandela was up at 5am to take a walk and be greeted by Londoners



## Judgment on 48-hour week set to disrupt Tory gathering

By GEORGE BROCK, EUROPEAN EDITOR

A JUDGMENT setting Britain's maximum working week at 48 hours is likely to emerge from the European Court of Justice in the early autumn, perhaps landing in the Government's lap just ahead of the Tory party conference in the second week of October.

Legal experts, the European Commission and Whitehall officials are sure that the full court will broadly follow the advice of its Advocate-General and rule against Britain's claim that a law capping Europe's working week is illegal. Although the directive is peppered with exemptions, including one allowing the 48-hour rule to be bypassed until at least 2003, the Working Time Directive looks set to become the European row of the conference season.

The likely time of its delivery would suit John Redwood as he positions himself in readiness for Tory leadership contest following a defeat of John Major's Government. Mildly disappointed in their hope that the court might rock the boat this week, Mr Redwood's advisers met yesterday to rethink their timetable.

Mr Redwood is using the 48-hour-week case to mount a broader campaign against the Court of Justice and thus embarrass rival contenders among Cabinet ministers who appear to be failing to do anything about it.

Exploiting resentment of recent judgments on Spanish fishing boats and claiming support from the German constitution, Mr Redwood wants the House of Commons to pass legislation making British law superior to European law. He has buttressed his case by saying that under the 48-hour directive, employers would have to refuse employees who wanted to work more than 48 hours. Neither that claim nor the assertion about German law is correct, but the truth on both points is buried in dense legal texts that few MPs want to consult.

Other Euro-sceptic MPs such as Nick Budge and Bill Cash have refused to jump on this bandwagon, since any such decision by Parliament would amount to a wholesale rejection of Britain's EU treaty obligations. The treaty, backed by exis-

ing British law, ensures that certain EU decisions automatically become the law of the land. The same applies in the EU's 14 other states. Sir Nicholas Lyell, the Attorney-General, recently warned ministers contemplating defying the court over the 48-hour week that Britain would immediately breach its treaty promises and that ministers might be personally liable for damages in any subsequent cases.

Stuck with the obligation to obey the court, Mr Major has been careful to say that he wants to undo the 48-hour directive during the renegotiation of the Maastricht Treaty which has been grinding along in Brussels since March.

In a House of Commons answer last week that has been puzzling people throughout Brussels, the Prime Minister told MPs that Britain's opt-out from EU social law ought to have stopped the 48-hour week directive in its tracks. The opt-out from the social chapter of the Maastricht treaty was never supposed to immunise Britain against all EU social law, although ministers have often implied that it would do exactly that.

A revision of the treaty that disabled the 48-hour week directive would be hard for any government to obtain. In any case, Britain's partners assume that the final decisions on rewriting the treaty will not be taken until June 1997 at the earliest, and that by that time they will be dealing with a Labour government content to accept the 48-hour limit.

In practice the Government will play for time if and when the Court of Justice rules against it. Department of Trade and Industry officials think that more than one new statute might be required to cope with the complications thrown up by the directive. A new body — which one official suggested might be called the Working Time Commission — might be needed to enforce the new laws and a raft of delays and loopholes.

The first move, a department spokesman said yesterday, would be to consult industry about "the least onerous way" of coming into line with the rest of the EU. And, she said cheerfully, "that could take months".

## Falklands battle a needless waste, says commander

By PETER FOSTER AND CAROL MIDGLEY

THE brigadier who commanded the landing forces during the Battle of Goose Green in the Falklands War has admitted that he should not have agreed to the attack. Julian Thompson, now a retired general, said he believed the war could have been won without that particular action.

In a Channel 4 documentary which suggests that the death of the paratrooper commander Colonel H. Jones, who was shot and killed in the battle, was an unnecessary waste, General Thompson says: "I believe the war could have been won without an attack on Goose Green and Darwin... I should have said, 'we're not going to do it.'"

The film, *The Battle of Goose Green*, investigates the pressure applied from London to achieve victory. At the same time the United Nations was calling on both parties to agree to a ceasefire.

General Thompson says he was summoned to talk to Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, commander in chief of the task force, via satellite phone. "He asked me why I had cancelled the Goose Green operation and I said, 'Because I was unable to take guns down there to support the operation because of a lack of helicopters... This appeared to irritate him as he said, 'Well, you don't need guns.'"

"At the end of the conversation... I was exceedingly angry and in fact said to myself as I walked towards my helicopter, 'I'm going to win this bloody performance and then leave.'"

Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin, then Chief of the Defence Staff, adds on the film that the British high command was not in the mood to negotiate: "We had at all events to avoid a ceasefire. We had to get the troops down there engaged, which would make a ceasefire that much more difficult."

The film also has an interview with the Argentine soldier who killed Colonel Jones as he tried to charge an

Argentine trench. Sergeant Osvaldo Olmos, then a corporal of the 25th Infantry Regiment, says: "I lifted my head and saw this soldier advancing. He was running towards the position on our right flank. I opened fire. A soldier next to me also fired. He falls wounded. He tries to crawl towards the position in front of him. He puts his hand under his body. I think he's reaching for a grenade. I shoot him again. He begins to shout. He tries to avoid being hit. The other man also fires. We put him out of action. He never moved again."

Colonel Jones was awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross.



Colonel H. Jones: died at Goose Green

It had been thought that he died in a hail of machinegun fire. His widow, Sara Jones, said yesterday after watching a preview of the programme, which will be screened tomorrow on Channel 4, that her pride in his gallantry remained unimpaired.

She criticised the film as one-sided and said its "negative slant" was indefensible and hurtful. "It gave a totally incomplete picture of the battle and H's actions. However, we will always believe that the battle, the outcome of which was in a large part thanks to H's training and leadership, set the tone for the rest of the campaign and inspired the task force to go on and win."

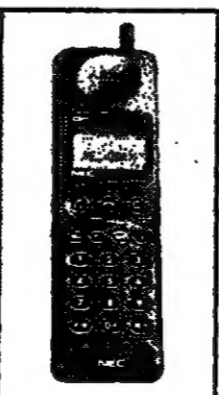
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Historian accuses the Prime Minister of 'an act of self-interest worthy of Henry VIII'

## Scholars challenge Major over Stone of Scone move

BY MARCUS BINNEY

TWO leading medieval historians are challenging the authority of the Queen and the Prime Minister to remove the Stone of Scone from Westminster Abbey. They say that the stone and the Coronation Chair built to house it are not part of the royal regalia but rank among the fixtures and fittings of the abbey.

Dr Paul Binski, Fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, and author of a recent authoritative volume on Westminster Abbey and the Plantagenets, said: "It is as much a fixture of the abbey as the body of Edward the Confessor. Removing the stone is like flogging relics of a saint."

He added that Mr Major's announcement that the stone was to be returned to Scotland was "an act worthy of Henry VIII — efficient, bureaucratic, self-interested and short-sighted. I am very angry. The Coronation Chair is one of the most important pieces of medieval furniture in existence anywhere. It is important because it is of a piece with the stone for which it was conceived."

Dr Christopher Wilson, who teaches at University College London, said: "The



The Coronation Chair containing the stone

stone was presented as a votive offering to the shrine of Edward the Confessor by Edward I. The shrine, the tomb and the stone together form a unique ensemble which have remained together for 700 years."

No medieval monarch, Dr Wilson argued, would have considered taking back what he had given to a saint.

The historians were joined yesterday by Dr Thomas Cocke, who organised the exhibition last year celebrating the 900th anniversary of the abbey. He said: "The

Coronation Chair is one of the most important pieces of medieval furniture surviving in the country, designed on the grandest scale and gilded and painted. The stone forms part of its unique mystery."

"Edward I may have taken the stone from Scotland, but the important point is that James VI of Scotland, when crowned as James I, adopted the abbey as the seat of the combined monarchy and had himself buried in the Henry VII chapel so the new dynasty was well and truly implanted in the abbey."

James I also had the body of his mother, Mary, Queen of Scots, brought from Peterborough and reburied in the south aisle of the chapel. "I am concerned at the precedent this sets. Will the Scots next ask for Mary's tomb to be removed to Scotland?" Dr Wilson asked.

Both Dr Cocke and Dr Wilson are concerned at the failure of the English to speak up for the stone. "The English are getting feeble and forgetful of their older history," Dr Wilson said.

"All the royal tombs in France were destroyed during or soon after the revolution. Nowhere else in Europe is there such a combination of



Christopher Wilson believes the Stone of Scone should remain in the Coronation Chair at Westminster Abbey

relic and tomb and shrine. This is the only medieval saint's shrine to survive in England and it survives only because Edward the Confessor was King as well as saint."

"If the stone had stayed in Scotland it would have been destroyed as a superstitious relic. The Reformation in Scotland was the most destructive in Europe. The Scots de-

stroyed all the tombs of their kings at Holyrood Abbey in the 1560s."

The Coronation Chair is the first dated piece of furniture in Britain, made by the King's painter, Walter of Durham, in 1300. It was first used in the Coronation ritual when Henry IV was crowned in the abbey in 1399. From the 15th century it has been used for

every Coronation save that of Mary.

In a statement, the Dean and Chapter of Westminster Abbey acknowledge: "The Stone of Scone is owned by the Queen in right of Crown. The Queen is Visitor of Westminster Abbey and therefore we accept her decision. But, as the successor of those abbots of Westminster and Deans and

Chapters who have been guardians of the stone for so many centuries, we must continue to urge those who are advising the Queen in this matter to take full account of the symbolic and emotional significance of the stone, its integral connection with the Coronation Chair and its intimate association with the sacrament of Coronation."

## Married head ends academic tradition

BY JOHN O'LEARY  
EDUCATION EDITOR

ONE of Britain's leading girls' schools has appointed its first married headmistress.

All nine principals in the 143-year history of The Cheltenham Ladies' College had been spinsters when the governors met to choose a successor to Enid Castle, who retired when term ended last week. But the past counted for nothing when the shortlist was drawn up.

Vicky Tuck, deputy head of the City of London School for Girls, will take over in September, bringing two sons with her as well as a husband. They will move into the principal's house in the college grounds, her husband Peter commuting to London for his job as an accountant.

The two boys, David, 12, and Patrick, 9, will attend the nearby Cheltenham College. Mrs Tuck said she did expect them to adapt quickly to being surrounded by so many girls.

A spokeswoman said the school had never had a policy of avoiding married women. "The governors have always looked for the best candidate. Historically, there would have been few married candidates for a job such as this, and more recently it has been a question of circumstances."

Mrs Tuck, a linguist and former university lecturer, was unaware that she might be breaking the mould when she applied for the job. "I believe it will be good for the girls to grow up seeing that women can have a successful career while bringing up a family."

The ladies' college, where boarding fees are almost £13,000 a year, has been one of the most successful girls' schools during Miss Castle's nine-year tenure of office. Mrs Tuck said: "The school has a broad extra-curricular life which I think is very important. It is not just a hothouse for academic achievement."

Other independent girls' schools have already abandoned the tradition of unmarried heads. Queenswood, in Hertfordshire, will also have the first married principal in its 102-year history this September, when Clarissa Farr takes over the headship.

## PC convicted of cash-dispenser fiddle wins fight to clear name

BY LIN JENKINS

A VILLAGE policeman convicted of attempted fraud after he complained about phantom withdrawals from a cash dispenser has won a three-year fight to clear his name.

John Munden has always maintained that he did not withdraw £460 from his account over five days in 1992. But the Halifax Building Society insisted mistakes did not happen with cash dispensers and called in the police to investigate.

PC Munden won an appeal against his conviction when Judge Turner said it was unjust that defence experts had been refused access to the building society computer to examine how an error could

have been made. Bury St Edmunds Crown Court quashed the conviction on Monday and the judge told PC Munden that he too had been the victim of a computer error by his bank in the past week.

The allegation of theft weighed heavily on PC Munden, who was arrested at his own village police station at Bottisham, Cambridgeshire, in February 1993 and suspended on full pay from his £20,000-a-year post. His wife, Lorraine, had a nervous breakdown and tried to commit suicide. PC Munden, who was awarded five commendations from his Chief Constable for bravery and saving lives and one from a judge at the Old Bailey during his 19-year career with Cambridgeshire

police, was labelled a thief and faced losing his job and home.

He said yesterday: "At last I have got my reputation back, that's the main thing. I feel very relieved after 3½ years of fighting against this." He is still considering whether to sue for damages. "I believe my career would be blighted if I returned to the force. This case has ruined my life. Even though my conviction has been quashed, mud will stick on me."

Mrs Munden, 42, who was convicted of a motoring offence after crashing her car the day her husband was arrested, said yesterday that she had lost her job as an export administrator for a drugs company as a result of the case. Prescribed anti-depressant drugs she failed to

recover enough to return to work. "I ended up being dismissed... The whole thing has been a nightmare. Now I just feel very bitter about the Halifax. This only happened because they could not accept they had made a mistake."

PC Munden, 45, of Stetchworth, Cambridgeshire, had initially complained to the building society about unauthorised withdrawals from his account over five days in 1992. However, the Halifax suspected that he had taken the money from a cash-dispensing machine and called in the police. PC Munden was convicted by Newmarket magistrates in April 1994 and given a conditional discharge and ordered to pay costs.

Ross Anderson, a computer expert

from Cambridge University, told Bury St Edmunds Crown Court that the transactions could have been made by a dishonest employee, a criminal with PC Munden's personal identification number or by computer error.

Judge Turner said: "It is absolutely unjust in a case involving a piece of machinery where a prosecution has been brought that anybody would be stopped from examining that piece of equipment, in this case, a computer."

Joyce Grummitt, for the Halifax, said commercial reasons and customer confidentiality had prevented them allowing defence experts access to the computer. "It would have been against data protection laws to have given access to this information."



Munden: Halifax had refused to believe him

## Frail widow born with the century is knocked down by young muggers

BY STEWART TENDLER  
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A 96-YEAR-OLD widow was in hospital yesterday with head injuries after being beaten by muggers. Maud Wood, 5ft tall and weighing seven stone, was attacked as she walked on a regular shopping trip from her flat to a supermarket.

The thieves left her lying on the ground and escaped with £20 and a bus pass. Staff at Whittington Hospital in Highgate, north London, said that she had a broken nose and teeth and may have a fractured skull, but was stable.

Mrs Wood, born on the first day of the century, left her home in Finsbury Park to walk to a Tesco supermarket in Hornsey. Aware of the danger from muggers, she tried to conceal her handbag inside a plastic shopping bag.

She was found face down on the pavement near her home, dazed and bloody. Mrs Wood told police that she could not remember what had happened, but the man who found her saw four youths running away. Police put out an alert



Maud Wood in hospital yesterday: doctors fear her skull was fractured in the shopping-trip attack

for three white youths and a black teenager who were in the area.

Mrs Wood, a former seamstress, has no children or immediate family. She and her husband were in the hotel business in Scotland before settling in the area in 1957. Mr Wood died soon afterwards and his widow stayed in their ground-floor flat.

Martin Powell, a neighbour who visited Mrs Wood, said: "I was shocked by what I saw,

her nose is broken and split open. She has bruises all over her arms and wrists. But the plucky old girl recognised me immediately. She does not know what happened. She keeps on saying she was pushed."

He said that he was full of admiration for her. "She is such an independent person. She lives for the garden and keeps it immaculate. She is incredibly fit. She never even catches a cold — now some-

thing like this happens to her." Phyllis Cockle, 74, Mrs Wood's oldest friend at the Osborne Grove Club, where the two played bingo, said: "I don't know what to say about her attackers — a puff of wind would have blown her over."

George Powell, 78, who lives opposite and has been her landlord since 1957, said: "She is a real Cockney sparrow." He said that after Mrs Wood's husband died she used to go dancing with a friend until he died about ten years ago in his 80s.

Mr Powell said: "Maud is very alert and active. She does all her own shopping and doesn't need a stick or a shopping trolley. She even mows her lawn. What's more, she uses an old-fashioned manual mower, not one of these electric or petrol ones. It can't be easy for her, but she insists on doing it. She has started complaining lately that it takes her several days to finish the job, but she still manages it."

Mrs Cockle said that Mrs Wood's only surviving relative is a niece who lives in Bedfordshire and who is on holiday.

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## Where's my party, cries consultant

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A RETIRING consultant has made a formal complaint that no one organised an official farewell party or presentation for him.

Yash Suri says he felt humiliated that there was no celebration for him when he stepped down after 20 years at the Darlington Memorial Hospital in Co Durham.

Dr Suri, 61, a geriatrics specialist, was prominent in developing the town's medical services for the elderly and set up a district disability committee. He said: "It has upset me because of the work I have done for the hospital and it would have been a gesture of thanks."

"It would have given my colleagues the chance to wish

me happiness in my retirement and allowed the chief executive to thank me formally for my services."

He said that other senior colleagues were given retirement parties and a memento, but nothing was done for him. He has asked the hospital NHS trust for an explanation.

John Saxby, the trust's chief executive, said there had been a policy change to cut costs. Retirement awards were now limited to anyone leaving after 15 or more years and all they received was a formal note of thanks. The trust would make a donation to the cost of a leaving party.

Mr Saxby said: "It would not be fair for the hospital to fund such a bash when such parties are not laid on for nurses, cleaners and porters."



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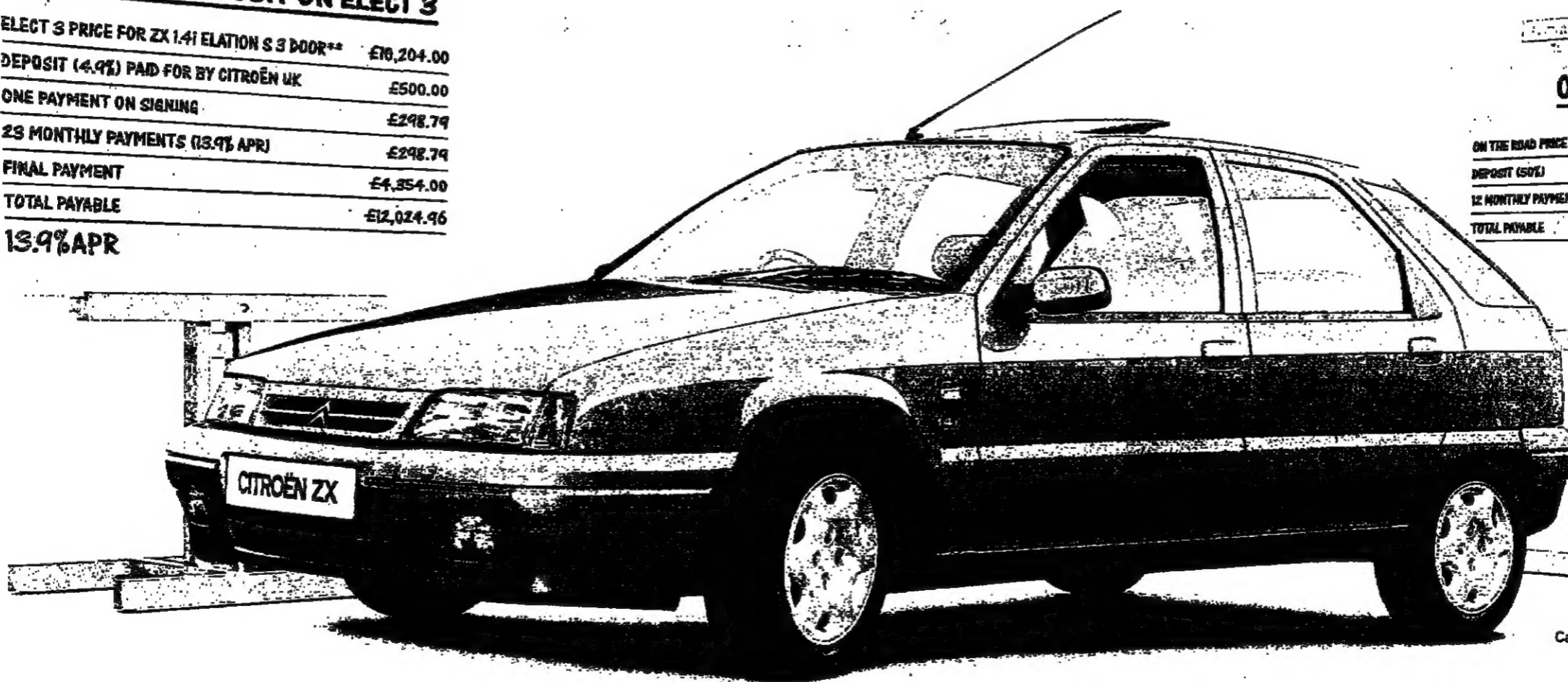
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24/11/96

## Barristers' clerks in top chambers earn over £300,000

By Frances Gibb  
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

BARRISTERS' clerks in London can earn more than £300,000 a year, according to a survey of their earnings. Their average pay is £100,000.

In the top-earning commercial sets of chambers, where the annual turnover tops £10 million, the clerks — the most powerful backstage figures in the legal world — are likely to be earning more than £150,000. The survey concludes that "a number of senior clerks earn considerably more than a commercial rate for the job they carry out".

It also found that most heads of chambers believed their clerks were good value, although 18 per cent admitted their view was not shared by the rest of the barristers in their set of chambers: 33 per cent said the rest of the set considered clerks to be fairly satisfactory value.

The survey was based on a questionnaire sent to 214 London-based chambers by BDO Stoy Hayward, the chartered accountants. Eleven out of the 60 heads of chambers failed to answer the question on the senior clerks' earnings.

Ian Harvey, a partner with BDO Stoy Hayward, which specialises in advice for professional practices, said: "From talking with barristers

Solicitors who advertise "no win, no fee" deals for accident victims seeking compensation were told yesterday that they must not mislead by hiding other charges. The Advertising Standards Authority said that clients who lost were often charged for specialist reports or for insurance against paying the other side's costs. It partly upheld complaints against Glazer Delmar of Peckham, south London, and Anthony Gold Lerman and Muirhead of London Bridge, southeast London, who both agreed that clients might have to pay for reports if a case were lost. An earlier complaint against Burroughs Day of Bristol was also upheld.

there seemed to be an issue about the level of support that comes from the clerks' room and the value they get from the clerks. But there is very little information in the public domain about how cost-effective the clerks are. Our survey shows there is certainly room for improvement."

Barristers' clerks are not legally qualified, but have power to shape and influence the careers of barristers in their charge. Their traditional

image in legal circles is still of the barrow boy made good, the sharp Cockney who worked his way up from making tea and carrying bundles to court. For many, it is an image that holds good, in contrast to their Oxbridge-educated fledgling barristers.

Paul Shrubbsall, senior clerk at one of the top commercial sets, One Essex Court, said: "We still have the traditional role that we had 200 years ago, described by Lamb as a servant, dresser, friend." However, modern-day clerks in much larger sets of chambers also filled the roles of "office administrator and accountant, business manager, agent, adviser and friend".

Stephen Graham, chairman of the 675-member Institute of Barristers' Clerks, said yesterday: "The most important fact to emerge is that most heads of chambers regard their clerks as providing value for money."

The job of a senior clerk, he said, had changed radically from 20 years ago. Now they were effectively chief executives, running a large administrative staff in chambers where the turnover could be as much as £10 million. "That's a fairly big output, and you have to remember that the clerk has responsibility for that."

Law Report, page 23

## Law reformers warn against revealing past convictions

By Frances Gibb

MOVES to allow a defendant's previous convictions to be revealed during trials — particularly of sex offenders — could undermine their chances of justice, senior law officers said yesterday.

The Law Commission, the body charged with law reform, said tests with mock juries showed that knowledge of past offending made them more prone to convict.

Judges should apply a new, more relaxed, test to decide whether previous convictions

should be revealed. But in view of the research with mock juries, the commission cautions against reform along American lines which would allow previous convictions automatically to be revealed in crimes such as sex offences.

Research by the Oxford Centre for Socio-Legal Studies found that certain previous convictions undermined a defendant's chance of a fair trial, regardless of whether the current charge was similar. In particular, the mock juries were prejudiced against people with a history of child

sex assaults. The "all-round negative evaluation of such a person" has a significant impact on the jurors' view of the defendant's credibility.

It recommends a range of changes, including a test that, in general, previous convictions can be disclosed if it is relevant and if its value in proving the crime outweighs any prejudicial effect.

□ Evidence in Criminal Proceedings: Previous Misconduct of a Defendant. Consultation paper 141 (Stationery Office: £22)



Stella Tennant in her Chanel leggings after the show at the Paris Ritz

## Chanel ushers in return of body-stocking

By Grace Bradberry, Style Editor

STELLA TENNANT, the English model who is the face of Chanel, was forced yesterday to defend the use of ultra-thin models by the designer Karl Lagerfeld.

As curvaceous women emerged into the suite at the Paris Ritz, dressed in absurdly slim body-stockings, it became clear that Claudia Schiffer no longer has a place at the Chanel shows because her fuller figure is outmoded.

After the show, a beleaguered Tennant was asked to justify the look — and her own figure. "There are different shapes of female body. Karl has done a show that emphasises thinness. It's another extreme," she said. Lagerfeld himself, a resplendently full figure, appeared oblivious to the storm and waited his black fan in front of his face.

Within the fashion world, there will be few prepared to criticise. The autumn/winter haute couture collection was considered a triumph. There were evening dresses exquisitely decorated with silver leaves and long satin coats — dresses delicious enough to justify the bank loans required to buy them.

While other designers struggle to give relevance to couture, Lagerfeld seems able effortlessly to reinterpret the Chanel legacy for a younger generation. Yesterday the models were flapper girls, with cloche hats, art deco head-dresses and gold-leaf visors, reminiscent of early Coco Chanel designs. There were also Chinese embroidered coats and jackets.

But the garments most likely to reach ordinary women were the body-stockings. Under long coats and evening dresses, they looked suspiciously like leggings, or even catsuits. Designed by Lagerfeld they were beautiful, but beware cheap imitations, doubtless coming to a high-street store soon.

Lagerfeld himself recoiled from the term body-stocking. "This is not tight Lycra," he emphasised. "The suits are made by haute couture methods to really fit every angle of

the body." But there was an ominous afterword: "They can be made easier by the people."

And we all know what that means. A byword for style ten years ago, leggings are now the naifest clothing money can buy. Worn with high heels, and by large-thighed women, they are a truly shocking sight. But Lagerfeld, surrounded by some of the world's most beautiful women, rarely has to confront such a sight, which may be why he has blithely teamed heels with the body-stockings.

So can he single-handedly rehabilitate leggings and catsuits? Tennant was circumspect: "For this collection the clothes have very simple lines, so the body stocking underneath emphasises the pureness of silhouette. I don't necessarily think it's a case of leggings being the trend from now on."

But Mr Lagerfeld has support in the willowy shape of Camilla Nickerson, Editor of American Vogue. On Monday night she was spotted in an all-in-one body-suit. It may be only a matter of time before others follow.

Style, page 14



Lagerfeld: fanning away thin-model storm

## Henry III gold coin sells for record £159,500

A GOLD "penny" fetched £159,500 yesterday — a record price for a British coin.

The Henry III coin, the first to be struck in gold in England, was bought at Spink's in London by a private collector for two and a half times its estimate. Although known as a gold penny, the coin had a face value of 20 pence. May

Sinclair, of Spink's, said that until the reign of Henry III (1216-1272) English coins were made of silver.

"The King was fascinated by gold and the first such coin was struck in the late summer of 1257. It seems likely that such coins were made from gold accumulated over a period of time by the King himself." The coin sold yes-

terday first surfaced at auction in 1859, when it was bought for an undisclosed sum by the renowned collector Marmaduke Trant.

□ A painting by William Hogarth, with an estimated value of £500,000, has been bought for the nation on the eve of an auction at Sotheby's in London today. The conversation piece, of five members

of the prominent Welsh family of Robert Jones, has been bought for an undisclosed price by the National Museums and Galleries of Wales. In the background is Ffynnon Castle, near Barry, the family seat.

The painting was being sold by Sir Brooke Boothby, a direct descendant by marriage of the Jones family.

## Antisocial motorists captured on camera

By Jonathan Prynn

MOTORISTS who annoy other road users with their bad driving may be captured on film and fined up to £1,000 under a new police initiative against "road rage" launched yesterday.

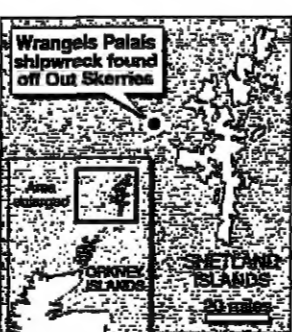
Cameras are to monitor the busiest junctions on the Marylebone Road and Euston Road, one of the London's most congested thoroughfares, in the first scheme of its kind in Britain.

Traffic officers who will monitor the cameras 24 hours a day have been told to look out for antisocial driving, such as cars blocking junctions by sitting in filter boxes and making illegal left, right and U-turns.

The cameras can photograph the number plates of cars, and offenders will pay fixed fines of £20 or £40 or face prosecution and a maximum penalty of £1,000. If the £50,000, six-month trial is successful the scheme could be extended throughout London.

Kevin Delaney, road safety manager for the RAC, said it was the first time that the police had used cameras to clamp down on "bad" driving as well as dangerous driving habits such as speeding. "Extending camera enforcement to something that is not dangerous, is a real qualitative change."

The Metropolitan Police said that the cameras could help to reduce congestion and "road rage" as well as to deter dangerous driving. The cameras are at the Baker Street, Park Crescent and Eversholt Street junctions.



## Man-of-war wreck sheds light on past

By Lin Jenkins

THE wreck of a man-of-war that has lain undisturbed for almost 300 years off the Shetland Islands has given up some of its secrets to a team of divers.

After two weeks scouring the sea-bed, the team has gathered cannon balls, musket shot and artefacts which give an insight into the lives of 240 sailors in the 17th century.

The 107ft Danish warship *Wrangels Palis* was lost after running aground in fog in July 1687. Dr Tim Sharpe, a diver and lecturer in architecture, found her 85ft down six years ago off the Out Skerries, 15 miles east of Shetland Mainland. She was one of six ships of the Royal Danish Navy in a patrol between Scotland and Iceland to counter 13 Barbary Coast pirate ships which were preying on an international trade route.

The divers, from the University of Strathclyde sub-aqua club, found 177 pieces of shot in the wreck, which had 46 guns. Other finds have yet to be cleaned and identified but are believed to include a dagger and scabbard. They are being conserved at the Shetland Museum.

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## Tailor-made drug treatments help to fight breast cancer

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

DOCTORS at the Royal Marsden Hospital in London believe they have found a better way to treat breast cancer.

They treat the tumour with drugs before surgery, not after, and are using a new test to ensure that the drugs are a "rate" tailored to the individual tumour. The advance was described at the launch yesterday of a research report by the hospital and the Institute of Cancer.

Dr Ian Smith, head of medicine at the hospital, said that using drugs before surgery reduced the size of the tumour, making surgery easier and less destructive, and ensured that the drugs were working. After surgery they were needed to rid the body of remaining traces of the tumour.

"The problem is that it can still take two to three months to see if the tumour is shrinking," he said. "So we have been looking for a test that will

show us much more quickly if the drugs are working, so that some women can be spared several months of unpleasant treatment that isn't doing them any good."

The research has shown that cancer drugs work by increasing the rate at which tumour cells self-destruct, a process called apoptosis. This itself is an important finding, Dr Smith said, because it had not been realised before that this was the mode of action.

In the latest method, a tiny sample is removed from the tumour and the rate at which it self-destructs is measured. The drug is given to the patient and the tumour tested again. If apoptosis has increased, it means that the drug is likely to prove effective. The test is not painful and can be carried out in an outpatient clinic.

If the drug is not working, another can be tried. A tailor-made treatment for every patient can be devised,

maximising her chances of long-term survival. Twenty-five patients have been treated in this way, which is not enough to be sure that the method will bring benefits. It will take another 25 over the next eight to nine months for the statistics to be convincing. Women with breast cancer may help themselves to live longer by talking in groups about their hopes and fears. There is evidence that survival can be lengthened by promoting a "fighting spirit". Professor Sid Bloch of Melbourne university told the Association of European Psychiatrists in London.

Solismism, helplessness, alienation and anxiety could lead to earlier death, he said. The professor is following the progress of 300 women with breast cancer over ten years. Half are offered weekly group therapy sessions for six months. He said that death, anxiety and fear of recurrence were soon discussed.



Michelle Hamilton with Jolene, left, and Robert, who were born 13 days ago

## Mother has one white twin and one black

By Dominic Kennedy

A MOTHER has given birth to twins, one black and one white. Michelle Hamilton is of mixed race and the children's father, Robert Calvert, is black.

The babies were delivered by Caesarean section 13 days ago, a month premature, at St George's Hospital, Tooting, south London. Jolene, who is white, weighed 5lb 2oz and Robert Jr, who is black, 4lb 6oz.

"People are fascinated when they see them," said Ms Hamilton, 31, who has four older children. "One of my other daughters was born white but has grown darker."

Isaac Manyonda, the consultant obstetrician, said: "Black babies are often very pale when born and become darker over a period of time. In circumstances where either family has relatives or ancestors of different races, a child of apparently all-white or all-black family could have different physical characteristics from its parents or siblings."

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## Study of injured athletes gives old a sporting chance



Dr Thomas Stuttford

THE first Prince Philip Medal in Sport's Medicine was presented this week not to a man involved in caring for young athletes but to a professor of geriatrics.

Archie Young, of the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine in London, points out that the practice of medicine for the over-65s and the study of the physiology of exercise and of sports injuries have much in common.

Athletes and old people are both exercising to the limit of their ability. The analogy is that of the car. When a car is new and being raced, its performance when the foot is hard down is tremendous. Engine, brakes, suspension and steering are all being tested to breaking point. When the car is old the accelerator is again floored but by now merely to climb the gentlest incline.

Professor Young has found answers to some of the problems of old age by studying the muscles and respiration of athletes.

While training for the Olympics, athletes are subjected to tests which would never be permitted by hospital ethical committees if undertaken in the laboratory. The injuries sustained by athletes provide good case histories in which to study what happens to muscles after they have been immobilised or to see how the wasting which occurs after an injury can be limited. This research has proved relevant to the care of patients suffering the normal muscle wasting of old age or those who

have had a joint immobilised by disease or injury.

One of Professor Young's findings is that the collection of even a small amount of fluid in a diseased or damaged joint, of whatever age, accelerates the muscle wasting around the joint. It takes months to rebuild the muscles which have shrunk in this way. Sometimes their strength is never restored.

Previously when small quantities of fluid accumulated in a joint there was a tendency for doctors to pat the patient on the back, and to murmur that the patient had nothing to worry about because the fluid would slowly absorb — and so it did but so too would the muscles shrink.

Even 20ml of fluid — four large teaspoonfuls — in a joint can reduce the efficiency of the muscles around it by 50 per cent. The lesson learnt by this work is that even small amounts of fluid should be withdrawn from a joint.

Between the ages of 65 to 89 healthy men and women lose their muscle strength by 2 per cent a year, and the power of some of the lower limb muscles at the rate of 3-4 per cent a year.

This is only one aspect of the research undertaken on athletes at the Royal Free. Little do the older generation know it, but the young sportsmen and women now preparing to go to Atlanta and exercising daily to their utmost limits are at the same time demonstrating to Professor Young and his colleagues, ways in which the elderly may be able to throw away their sticks.

## Doctor 'joked at patient's weight'

By A Staff Reporter

A FEMALE patient said yesterday that she felt like hitting a doctor to the floor when he asked her if she needed a hoist to get off his examination couch.

The 54-year-old woman, referred to only as Mrs B at a General Medical Council disciplinary hearing in Marylebone, central London, said that the consultant surgeon made other derogatory remarks about her weight, including asking her if she wanted to be a wrestler.

Mrs B, from Eccles, Greater Manchester, went to see Sanath Weeraratna for an insurance examination at Highfield private hospital in Rochdale after she suffered back pains during a fall. She told the hearing that he asked her to strip to her underwear before he launched into comments about her build.

"He said to me 'Jesus, you need to lose some weight.' I was very embarrassed and very annoyed," she said. "I told him to stop making

comments about my weight." As he examined her back he said he did not know whether he would be able to feel anything through the inches of fat, she said. "I was beginning to feel rather lost for words. I had already asked him to stop, but he didn't seem to take any notice."

Mrs B said she had difficulty moving off a couch because of her injury and arthritis. "He asked me did I need a hoist. I could have knocked him off the floor. I was getting very uptight and I just wanted to get the examination over with. I did tell him he was very rude, but he said he was only trying to be friendly."

Mr Weeraratna, who denies serious professional misconduct, then smacked her on the bottom as she walked in front of him, she said. "I was just lost for words. I just couldn't believe that someone in a position of trust could do such a thing."

The day after she wrote to the hospital and to her union to complain. The hearing continues.

# THE BATTLE OF GLORIOUS VICTORY?

On the 22nd May 1982, five hundred men of the 2nd Parachute Regiment took on a superior Argentine force at Goose Green, and won the first land battle of the Falklands War.

The Para's Commanding Officer, Lt/Col H Jones was killed charging an Argentine trench and was awarded

the Victoria Cross. "The devastating display of courage," said the citation "completely undermined their will to fight further."

In this edition of a new series of Secret History British paratroopers who were with Jones, and the Argentine enemy soldier who shot him, give a new

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How a ship carrying Jewish refugees fleeing the Nazis was spurned by the Western World.

JP 11/10/96

# IRA accused of provocation as Catholic homes are attacked

BY NICHOLAS WATT  
CHIEF IRELAND  
CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 20 Roman Catholic families in Belfast and Londonderry have been driven out of their homes in Protestant areas after loyalist mobs chanted sectarian abuse and threatened violence.

Mothers with young children spoke yesterday of the intimidation, evoking memories of August 1969 when loyalists burnt Catholic homes in Belfast early in the present Troubles.

However, the sectarian clashes of today are more complex than the brutal house-burnings of 1969, which have an infamous place in nationalist history. There was evidence yesterday that republicans stoked the main dispute in north Belfast, with reports that an IRA mob wrecked the house of one Catholic family after they had fled. Sinn Féin also organised a press conference yesterday of families who were forced to move.

Christina Corbett, 30, a mother of three who fled her house in the Protestant Torrrens estate in north Belfast,



August 1969: houses burning after loyalists attacked the Falls Road, Belfast

told the press conference of her fear. Mrs Corbett, who is separated from her husband, said: "As we came home the Protestants rushed towards us. We ran into the house, but 30 men tried to break down the door. We put a sofa against it to keep them out, so they threw bricks and planks of wood through the window."

Mrs Corbett, who moved into the predominantly Protestant Torrrens estate after the IRA ceasefire in 1994, said that the police advised her to grab her valuables and leave. "I now have nowhere to go," she said.

A spokesman for the Northern Ireland Housing Executive said yesterday it had a statutory obligation to rehouse all families who have been forced to move.

Boarded-up windows, empty and ransacked houses on the Torrrens estate served as a grim reminder yesterday of the disturbance on Monday night, which erupted as loyalists across Northern Ireland protested in support of the Orangemen at Drumcree, Portadown.

Martin Meehan, a pivotal republican figure in north Belfast who organised the press conference, blamed the

disturbance on Unionist leaders who had made inflammatory speeches at Drumcree. However, a young Catholic mother living on the Torrrens estate disputed Sinn Féin's version of the disturbance. She said that some of her Catholic neighbours had "provoked the Protestants" by calling them "Orange bastards". She added: "That is how it all started. After the Catholics had left the Provos moved in and wrecked some of the houses."

The mother, who did not want to give her name for fear of retaliation, said she would remain on the estate. She said: "I feel under threat from my Protestant neighbours because they've just repainted the kerb stones and put out their flags. But if I moved out I'd be pleasing both sides."

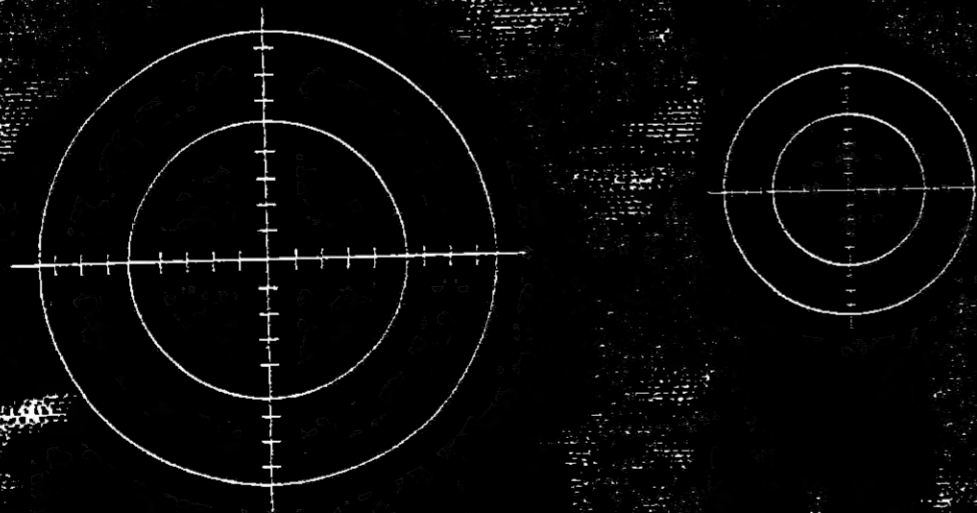
Security sources, already worried that the IRA might use this year's Orange marching season to resume its campaign in Northern Ireland, were concerned by the intimidation of the Catholic families. The apparent involvement of the IRA is an ominous sign.

Leading article, page 17



July 1996: Christina Corbett and sons Conor, left, and Declan forced to flee home

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## Bitterness burns bright each side of barbed wire

BY AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE bitterness of the two rival Ulster traditions simmered on both sides of the barbed wire that separated Orange marchers from Catholic residents on the third day of the stand-off at Drumcree.

Richard, a 63-year-old member of the Edenderry Orange Lodge, said he had been walking the banned route from the Protestant church down Garvaghy Road to the Orange hall in the centre of Portadown for the past 55 years and vowed to remain until he was allowed to pass. He said that the march, which has followed the same route for 189 years, was a gesture of support for the Unionist tradition and of defiance to the IRA, who shot dead his cousin ten years ago.

Richard, falling swiftly into the old habit of refusing to give his surname for fear of reprisal, said that he had returned from holiday especially to attend the march.

He has spent the last three nights sleeping in his car and eating hamburgers and chips. He will stay on the hillside until the RUC and the British Army let the Orangemen pass along the Garvaghy Road, even if it means losing his job as a salesman. "We Protestants have taken so much

down the years. There has been so much sorrow and destruction in my family because of the Sinn Féin-IRA people," he said.

Eleven years ago the Orangemen rerouted and cancelled some marches through Portadown. Richard ruled out further compromise. "When the Garvaghy Road was built first it was 100 per cent Protestant but within three or four years it was mainly Roman Catholics, and that is because of the threats made against Protestants."

Catholics in the Garvaghy area say Protestants left of their own choice as more Catholics moved in. Three thousand Catholics live in the area now. Joanne Tennyson, 38, a Catholic resident, said: "As a young person I felt bitterness and hate when I saw the marchers and their drums. But as a ma I can see my children getting the bitterness and hate that I had."

About 1,600 Catholics signed a petition saying that the march should be kept away from Garvaghy Road. Miss Tennyson said they could not ignore the march or look away for 15 minutes as the parade passed. "The Orangemen were seeking to take control of the area, she said.



Canon David Pierpoint, rector of St Michan's, surveying the damage in the vandalised crypt

## Vandals ransack historic church

BY A STAFF REPORTER

VANDALS have desecrated one of Ireland's most historic churches, plundering graves and destroying remains. They set fire to one of five vaults at St Michan's Church, Dublin, which was founded in 1095.

The Church of Ireland church has seen the christening of the politician and philosopher Edmund Burke and the funeral of the Home Rule leader Charles Stewart Parnell. Handel is said to have played the organ keyboard preserved there. The church also houses the death mask of the United Irishmen leader Wolfe Tone, who was executed after the 1798 rebellion.

The vandals entered the crypt at the weekend and plundered more than half of the 80 coffins inside. The church, which attracts 20,000 visitors a year, is famous for the remarkable preservation of the bodies in the crypt — among them a crusader dating from 800 — which is ascribed to its dryness. The damaged vault will not be

reopened to the public. Further damage was caused when firemen used water on the fire started by the vandals.

Canon David Pierpoint, the rector, said: "It's beyond imagination. The last taboo has been broken — respect for the dead."

"There are seven tombs and in each there would be coffins stacked. In five of those tombs there are no more coffins. All there is is wood, broken bones and smashed skulls. To me the worst part is the sacrilege, the desecration. Why can't people let them lie in peace?"

He said that the vandals appeared to have been searching for valuables. It is thought that they broke in on Saturday night or Sunday morning, and the fire they started smouldered until it was discovered by a tour guide on Monday. Senator John Dardis, chairman of the opposition Progressive Democrats, described the incident as barbarism and said: "It's a very sad reflection on the way that Irish society is developing."

# Whoever wins the election, the tax burden will have to rise

The Kenneth Clarke version of the Treasury's Summer Economic Forecast is like Labour's mini-manifesto to last week — an exercise in short-term optimism and long-term evasion. Only Mr Clarke could present a huge overrun in public borrowing as a success, and get away with it. And he may get away with it, in the short term, which is all that matters for the Tories before the election.

Mr Clarke does have some good news to tell. Output growth should pick up to an annual rate of 3 per cent over the next 18 months. Inflation should fall to 2.5

per cent and unemployment is clearly on a downward trend. The Government can claim credit for making the labour market more flexible and Britain less inflation-prone. So despite questions about the strength of investment and the trade deficit, the underlying position is strong.

Mr Clarke claimed yesterday that the economy could grow at 3 per cent a year for some time without recreating inflationary pressures — though the Bank of England, dismissed by him as "always too pessimistic", is not nearly so certain.

The forecasts also contain

## RIDDELL ON POLITICS

glimmers of electoral hope for the Tories, and certainly confirm the decision to delay the election until next spring. Real disposable income is set to rise strongly over the next 18 months, producing an even sharper rise in consumer spending — and Tory strategists hope, an improvement in the much talked about feel-good factor. This is, of course, supposed to lead inevitably to the conclusion "life's better under the Tories", with or, more likely now,

without big tax cuts this November.

The public finances are the main, very dark cloud over the economic outlook, though you would not think so from listening to Mr Clarke. He described as "a significant achievement" the new forecasts for a decline in public borrowing from £32 billion in 1995-96, to £27 billion this year and £23 billion next year. But these are much higher than previous projections. In the November 1994 Budget, the Treasury forecast total borrowing of £22 billion, £14 billion and £5 billion respectively for these years. Next year's expected

total may therefore be as high as was originally forecast for last year.

The blunt prose of the Treasury economists shows how big a hole has appeared in public finances, particularly lower than expected tax receipts. For 1997-98, the shortfall is equivalent to 3p off the basic rate of income tax. But the Treasury is clearly looking for some reduction in spending plans and it is making the expected tough remarks ahead of the Cabinet's discussion next week on the overall remit for the annual round of expenditure decisions. William Waldegrave pointed out

that the lower than expected rate of inflation meant that money could be saved by trimming back expenditure plans.

All this is likely to be largely cosmetic, even though some economists suspect that the latest revenue projections have been pitched on the low side to allow for better news this November. At any rate, unlike last autumn when hopes of tax cuts were raised by mistake, Mr Clarke wants to play down expectations now and to stress instead the rise in living standards already in the pipeline.

Neither the Tories nor Labour is prepared to face up to the

indisputable evidence of a continuing large structural deficit in the latest forecasts. The Tories are trying to gloss over the problem, while Labour blames it all on the Government. Nothing is likely to be done until after the election. The best that can be hoped is that Mr Clarke will minimise pre-election fudging, and Labour will avoid raising expectations which cannot be achieved. Whoever wins, fiscal policy will have to be tightened after the election. The tax burden will rise and spending plans will be cut.

PETER RIDDELL

## Ashdown says send bobbies to Bosnia

By Andrew Pierce

PADDY ASHDOWN advocated a radical solution yesterday to keeping law and order in Bosnia: sending 100 British beat bobbies.

The Liberal Democrat leader is asking each of the 43 chief constables in England and Wales to release one or two young uniformed officers. "British bobbies would help to create a climate of absolute trust," he said.

Mr Ashdown returned on Monday from a five-day fact-finding visit to Bosnia, where there are 9,000 British soldiers. He said that an international police force serving under the aegis of the United Nations had fallen short of the standards required.

"One British commander told me that he would happily forgo 500 soldiers for 30 British policemen. They wouldn't need to carry arms. It would be a tremendous experience for them and bring great benefits to Bosnia."

West Midlands police have had six officers in Mostar for two years. Sir Ronald Hadfield, the Chief Constable, welcomed Mr Ashdown's suggestion, saying: "Our officers have attempted to help Croatian, Bosnian and Serb officers work harmoniously together."

## Stalkers will risk five years in jail under new laws

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

STALKERS will face prison terms of up to five years under proposals published yesterday aimed at protecting thousands of women whose lives are ruined by harassment.

The plans could also help those troubled by harassment or molestation at work or by nuisance neighbours. The measures involve a mixture of the criminal and civil law and are expected to be in a Bill introduced in the next session of Parliament.

Ministers are suggesting that head teachers and police will be able to take legal action against an individual whose actions cause distress or alarm to a group of people in a building such as a school or office block. But the Home Office is to protect journalists, debt collectors and Jehovah's Witnesses from being prevented from carrying out legitimate activities. Journalists, however, could be served with an injunction if they act "unreasonably".

David Maclean, a junior Home Office Minister, said that the proposals amounted to a "comprehensive response" to a problem that had not been sufficiently covered by the law.

Every year thousands of women find themselves being stalked and are unable to get protection through the courts. Mr Maclean said: "Stalking is

a menace to society and a terrible scourge to the lives of victims. Stalkers can subject victims to constant harassment at home, at work, in public places to the extent that they can no longer go about their normal lives.

"Innocent people should not have to suffer such a terrifying ordeal. These proposals would give courts the power to punish stalkers for what they have done in the past and with the civil measures stop them from repeating their behaviour."

Under the Government's plans, outlined in a consultation document published yesterday, a civil measure will allow the victims of stalkers to seek an injunction against the person responsible. Breaching the injunction would be a criminal offence, punishable by up to five years in jail.

The Government is also proposing a new criminal offence of intentionally or unintentionally causing people to fear for their safety. It will be an offence whether or not the stalker intended to have this effect.

Anyone found guilty of committing the offence will face a punishment of five years in prison, an unlimited fine or both.

Another new offence of causing harassment, alarm and distress, whether or not intended, will carry a maxi-

mum penalty of six months in prison, a £5,000 fine or both.

The measure, which came after the Government blocked a Bill on stalking put forward by the Labour MP Janet Anderson, was widely welcomed. Dr Evonne von Heussen, director of the National Anti-Stalking and Harassment Campaign, said: "The measures set out are comprehensive and impressive and will go a long way to deter the stalking of innocent people and give the courts the powers they need to punish those who bring such misery to their victims."

Diana Lamplugh, director of the Lamplugh Trust, said: "Importantly, this new approach should also pick up other problem behaviour such as paedophiles who persistently hang around playgrounds seeking out victims."

The Government's action follows a series of high profile cases of harassment, ranging from following the victim, sending bouquets of flowers or persistent letter-writing. This year a man who harassed an colleague with letters and telephone calls for more than two years was found guilty of assault. But the prosecution had to prove he had intended to harm or was so reckless that he ignored the risk that the woman could suffer mentally.



## TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT: WHAT THREE MPs WILL DO

Peter Thurnham (Bolton North East) the former Tory who resigned the party whip, pledged to turn down his pay rise if MPs push for £9,000. He will repeat his decision of 1993 to reject a pay rise above the inflation rate. "It wasn't long ago that the Government insisted on a pay freeze for MPs. There is no logic in having a freeze and then having a pay rise of nearly 30 per cent. It really is a hopeless mess." He is a director of an engineering firm. "I am fortunate that I don't need the money so I will not take it. It is not like an ordinary job and we should be very careful about the public's view if we award ourselves a large increase."

Lynne Jones (Lab, Birmingham Selly Oak) will put any pay rise above 3 per cent towards her office costs. She wants most of the proposed £9,000 increase to be added to the £44,000 allowance for staff, office rental and equipment charges. As do many MPs, she already puts some of her salary towards paying two staff. "I subsidise their pay by about £2,500. We are constantly having to find money out of our salaries for staff costs and yet we should be using the huge allowances for car use to pay for our offices. It's time we were transparent about where the money goes, instead of MPs having to pass their own money to staff."

Nicholas Winterton (C, Macclesfield) will concentrate his opposition on plans to reduce the 74.1p top car mileage allowance to 47.2p. He qualifies for the highest allowance, paid for the first 20,000 miles, because he drives a 4.6-litre Range Rover. "I need a large car because I drive a lot of miles and it offers me safety and comfort so that, when I arrive in my constituency or at Westminster, I am ready to work. You cannot drive those sorts of distances in a small car." He criticises the Senior Salaries Review Body for recommending a lower allowance, saying that the top figure had been recommended by experts at the RAC.

## Minsters fear the worst as MPs face pay temptation

By Philip Webster and Arthur Leathley

MINISTERS warned MPs last night that voting themselves a big pay rise while opposing cuts in their generous car mileage allowances could bring the Commons into disrepute.

Tonight's series of votes on whether MPs will get a 3 per cent or 26 per cent rise are expected to be tight. Senior ministers spoke of the "nightmare" possibility that MPs would back a £9,000 rise and overturn the recommendation from the Senior Salaries Review Body that mileage allowances should be cut by a third.

MPs are being told that if they follow John Major's exhortation to accept a 3 per cent rise, the Government will withdraw the proposal to cut mileage payments, which are up to 74p a mile for larger cars. The Government's 126-strong "payroll vote" of ministers and aides is under orders to vote for 3 per cent, while backbench MPs from all parties have a free vote.

Several members of the Shadow Cabinet are expected to vote for the larger rise. Tony Blair informally canvassed members at the end of last week to see whether there was a consensus in favour of restraint. But he swiftly discovered that a number felt strongly that the issue of MPs' pay should be tackled now rather than under a Labour government.

If MPs back the government

line, the review body's recommendations that MPs' salaries should go up to £43,000, with bigger increases for ministers and the Prime Minister, will fall by the wayside.

But if the 3 per cent call is rejected MPs will go on to have a separate vote on their mileage payments, about which feelings, particularly among MPs from distant constituencies, are running high.

The "payroll vote" is not being mobilised on the mileage issue and ministers acknowledged the risk that the review body's proposals could be rejected. One minister said: "If the 3 per cent is rejected, we have no way of stopping them voting down the mileage allowances plan if they want. I just hope they stop and think before they do that. The headlines will be bad enough on Thursday morning."

MPs of all parties said it was hard to predict how tonight's vote would go. An overwhelming majority of MPs favour the larger rise, but it was unclear yesterday how many felt strongly enough to risk the wrath of their constituents. MPs in marginal seats are expected to abstain or vote against the review body, while many of the 70 retiring MPs, and those who expect to lose their seat, will go for the bigger figure in the hope of increasing the size of their pensions.

Tony Blair backs Mr Major's call for restraint. Paddy Ashdown said yesterday he planned to vote against big rises. "I don't mind MPs having a pay rise which is consistent with inflation — that is what the rest of the country has," he said. "But I'm certainly not in favour of pay

risers that extend towards 30 per cent."

The review body proposes, as well as immediate £9,000 rises for MPs and £17,000 for ministers, that the Prime Minister's salary should rise from £84,217 to £143,000, but only after the next election. Cabinet ministers would have their

pay rise from £69,651 to £103,000, also after the election.

A poll in The Guardian today suggests that voters are overwhelmingly opposed to a big pay increase for MPs. ICM found that 75 per cent of those polled believed that £43,000 was too high.

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# Why Mandela matters

In an age when most leaders inspire cynicism, the South African President is a model of dignity and integrity

A throng gathered in central London yesterday to welcome Nelson Mandela on his first state visit to Britain. Skeins of schoolchildren picnicked by the barriers lining The Mall, herds of teenagers stampeded through the park, colonies of tourists clustered with cameras, and a pride of South African students fluttered national flags, swaying gently to the slow rhythms of *Nkosi Sikelel' i Afrika* — God bless Africa — the hauntingly beautiful anthem of their country. Even in our sceptical and irreverent age, Mr Mandela is acclaimed as a legend in his lifetime, one of the greatest statesmen the 20th century has known.

"We voted him our hero," said Carl Thomas, a 12-year-old pupil at Stockwell Park School. "I wrote him a letter to say that I would pay a million pounds just to see him." In these times it is perhaps unique that children can single out a politician — rather than a sportsman or a pop star — as their idol. Mandela is much more than a statesman. He has become a symbol which restores a generation's beliefs in the power of the political process.

I clearly remember the time when it first dawned on me that politicians do not always hold the interests of their people at heart. It was a summer's day after lunch. I was dozing under a sycamore tree in the garden of my home in Worcester-shire. The leaves dangled the light of a late afternoon sun and nearby, still around the table, I could hear my parents discussing the then vague subject of nuclear war. It was at that point that the idea occurred to me: "What if President Carter should push the nuclear button just for fun... just to see what happened, to enjoy for one moment the ultimate power?" It must be something that every American president has fantasised of doing, just as every commuter has toyed with the idea of hurling themselves under the oncoming train.

That was the first time I realised that anyone prepared to muscle his way through the party political system, to marshal a presidential campaign, might not necessarily be the man to be trusted with the office. And few politicians since have done anything to restore my vanished faith. President Mandela is almost the only one.

Mr Mandela's enormous popularity undoubtedly owes much to the nature of the struggle from which he emerged as President. He grew up in a world rigidly circumscribed by racist laws and regulations. It was easy to count the ANC among the righteous as it pitted itself against entrenched white supremacy, against an increasingly ruthless ruling minority which struck out against the populace with an un-



It is the strength of Nelson Mandela's personality which has earned him his reputation — although he is a skilled and tenacious politician

gloved fist. The Government used naked force from the time of the Bulhoek massacre in 1921, when the army and police killed 183 unarmed people, to Sharpeville 40 years later.

But perhaps it requires such depths of oppression to create heights of character. Mandela set out on a perilous path in 1961 when, casting aside the ANC's core principle of non-aggression, he opted for organised violence. He emerged branded not a terrorist, but a hero. When he was finally imprisoned there was never any doubt that he had committed the crimes of which he was convicted. But he was hailed as a saviour rather than a sinner.

"It is Madiba, the man, I have come to see," said a South African student, using the affectionate name meaning "Father" by which the President has become known.

It is the strength of Mr Mandela's personality which has earned him his aura, although he is undoubtedly a skilled politician who, learning

to temper the hot-headed impulses of his youth with compromise and diplomacy, proved a tenacious negotiator during the difficult time leading up to transition. But it is more for the strength of his person-



RACHEL CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON

ality that he is lauded throughout the world. It is his moral, rather than his political, authority which sets the seal on his reputation. Mr Mandela, as one Johannesburg newspaper editorial observed, is the first statesman since George Washington whom people believe is incapable of telling a lie.

He has earned his nation's trust because he has proved himself able to touch people with a personal warmth. This is the man who celebrated his birthday by inviting 2,000 deprived children to a party in Johannesburg. He is the man who chats with doormen as easily as with dignitaries.

He is quick to remind people of his origins as a "country boy" brought up in a mud hut in a

Transkei village. And we remember, too, his great dignity — never more evident than when he bravely faced up to his own divorce.

Yet more than anything else, it is Mr Mandela's self-sacrifice which has set him apart. During his 27 years of imprisonment on Robben Island, the harshest outpost of the South African penal system, a mystique built around him which few could have lived up to. Those who counted on black euphoria dying down after his release, when the "saviour" would be revealed as just another fallible man, were proved wrong.

Mr Mandela laid aside any thoughts of personal gain in the interest of uniting a potentially explosive nation. From his long years of suffering he drew, not bitterness or rancour, but the authority to lead the ANC. His generosity of spirit drew respect from the Afrikaner community.

"To make peace with an enemy, one must work with an enemy and that enemy becomes your partner," he wrote in his autobiography *Long Walk to Freedom*.

"Mandela talks about things which matter," a schoolboy told me yesterday, grinning gap-toothed through his rainbow face paint. It would be hard to say the same of John Major or Tony Blair, whose beliefs are lost in party bickering and shallow triumphalism. There is much that is wrong in the

new South Africa. Young radicals grow impatient with President Mandela's negotiated settlements. Violence is soaring, foreign investment is atrophied and unemployment is high. But is this not the case in every growing democracy?

We must not, at this triumphal time for democracy, indulge in our national habit of slipping at our saints. If Mr Mandela were our leader, it might be constructive to begin to criticise. But he is a visitor from whom we have much to learn. He is the embodiment of principled opposition to prejudice. He remains the yardstick by which political leaders should be measured. "When I thought of Western democracy and freedom, I thought of the British parliamentary system," he recalls in his book. We should be proud to have provided a model for his beliefs.

On a clandestine visit to London in 1962, Mr Mandela passed the statue of General Smuts in Parliament Square. "Perhaps some day there will be a statue of us instead," he joked with his companion, Oliver Tambo. That day should now come. Children should be able to picnic under the plane trees of Parliament Square and, looking up into the leaves, remember that it is still possible to find political leaders in whom they can hold faith.

Tunku Varadarajan on sex tourism

## Time-bomb that flies in from Havana

Twenty flights leave Spain for Havana every week, carrying to the Caribbean island a yearly total of some 200,000 single male tourists, all in search of cut-price sex. Castro's impoverished Cuba — seven hours non-stop from Madrid — is now the Spanish-speaking Bangkok of the Western hemisphere.

These single men from Spain, known to Cubans as "Los Pepes", are the mainstay of a thriving sex trade which almost rivals the faded debauchery of the island in its pre-Castro days. Although there are no reliable figures today, there were approximately 100,000 prostitutes on the island in 1959. Cuba was known then as *el burdel de los Yanquis*, the brothel of the Yankees. It is now fast becoming the brothel of the Spaniards. The charter companies do not, of course, spell these things out in their advertisements for Cuba (unlike the sordid way some British or German companies sell trips to Thailand), but no one in Spain has the slightest doubt any more about the real source of the island's allure.

The Spanish men (a majority of whom are middle-aged) are drawn to Cuba for no reason other than sex.

According to an air-hostess who works the Madrid-Havana sector for a Spanish charter company, the men flock to Cuba for the bargains on the beach, the youth of the prostitutes and the legendary reputation for beauty which Cuban *mulatas* enjoy in Spain.

"They talk of nothing else all the way there, and nothing else all the way back," she said. "Some of the things I overhear are so revolting that I often want to chuck the airline job in and get away from these disgusting, lecherous pigs."

"They like the idea of an 18-year-old Carmen Miranda who will sleep with them for the price of a pizza, or for a bottle of scotch, or a new pair of shoes, or a hot shower in a clean hotel bathroom. And because the girls are young, and apparently naive, these

from Fulgencio Batista, the government finally acknowledged that prostitution exists, a humiliating admission of defeat for the revolution. It modified the penal code to reintroduce the crime of prostitution, thereby burying forever one of Castro's most cherished axioms.

Hundreds of prostitutes were rounded up in Varadero and Havana, and stricter controls have been imposed on their entry into tourist hotels. Most of the women, however, were released after a warning: the authorities know that their illicit income keeps thousands of families going in these times of crippling scarcity.

Meanwhile, "Los Pepes" continue to flock to the island — an estimated 4,000 this week alone. And since there is break between the sheets in Cuba, eager *jineteras* queue up to service them. A part of the revolution dies, to be sure, with the arrival of each charter flight.

### MEDIA

Andrew Jaspan, former Editor of *The Observer*, gives his verdict on the paper's new look. Page 21

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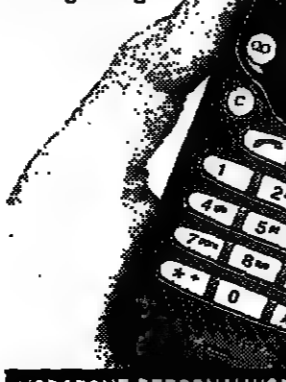
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## ULSTER ON THE BRINK

Loyalist anger is as real as the need for leadership

In the next few days, maybe in hours, it is possible that full-scale violence will return to Northern Ireland. The talks yesterday between John Major, David Trimble and Ian Paisley were held against a background of mounting pessimism. For the moment it does not look as if the murder of Michael McGoldrick in Lurgan will be the trigger for renewed sectarian barbarism. But Ulster is on the brink. It may be difficult to pull it back.

The immediate issues surrounding the Drumcree march are symbols more than catalyst. The process by which the Royal Ulster Constabulary decided to reroute that demonstration is unclear. Police assessments of the public order implications must be respected. Last year, in less fraught circumstances, it was possible to find a compromise which ended a similar stand-off. Such a bargain should be sought again even at this late hour. It would be a mistake, however, to give too much weight to the specific circumstances at Drumcree. They alone cannot explain the explosion of loyalist fury, and the erection of barricades well beyond Portadown.

The Unionist majority has rarely felt as isolated as it does today. There is the all-pervasive sense that the link with Britain is being undermined. The role of Sinn Féin in maximising and then exploiting nationalist discontent in Drumcree has been duly noted.

The concern that the hand of Dublin lies not far away from the operational calculations of the RUC is powerfully real. Despite the republican bombings in Docklands, Manchester and elsewhere, the peace process is perceived by many of the people in Ulster as a vehicle for those who would weaken or destroy the Union. With such an atmosphere of insecurity and impotence, the attachment to Orange institutions that

reinforce the identity of loyalists becomes much stronger.

The IRA would love to entice the Protestant paramilitaries into striking first in the Province: that much is well-known. The Protestant paramilitaries would be ill-advised to be so tempted: that much taken as read. In the present climate, however, logic and reason may go to the wind and with it what remains of the peace process. If all concessions are seen as shaped for republicans, then frustration will inevitably manifest itself in loyalist streets. Ulster stands at the moment in a barely tenable state of no war and no peace.

If the return to bloodshed is to be avoided it will require strong leadership from all quarters. The belief that London bends towards Dublin, which in turn follows a pan-nationalist agenda, has done much to create this tension. The British Government must rebuild confidence in its independence. This will in turn necessitate a more open style of decision-making and a lower profile for the Republic in Northern Ireland.

Ulster's politicians need to act as well. More time, energy, and faith must be placed in the search for constitutional consensus, to inspire — or at least not erode further — the confidence of citizens. The negative approach of Mr Paisley has hardly done that in recent weeks. John Hume needs to believe there is life after Gerry Adams. The Stormont talks still have an other-worldly feel about them. It is not easy to see how boycotting them during the Drumcree dispute helps to change that.

The meeting between Mr Major and the Unionist leaders did not produce instant progress. Time still remains to improve matters. Unless all democratic participants are very careful in the days ahead, the end of the peace process, as its beginning, seems destined to be scripted by the IRA.

## POLITICS OF THE MARKET

Are financiers backing Major's Britain or Blair's?

Just as a swallow does not make a summer, a forecast of economic prosperity, especially one coming from a Government less than a year away from a general election, does not necessarily preclude the real thing. It will be hardly surprising if the glowing assessment of the British economy issued yesterday by Kenneth Clarke is treated with deep scepticism by voters. Until people become more secure in their jobs and wallets feel full of the cash predicted by the Treasury, very few will give much credit to Mr Clarke's boast that Britain has become the strongest and healthiest economy in Europe.

This time, however, the public's understandable reluctance to be taken in by over-optimistic politicians may prove justified. As the economic expansion gathers pace, voters should realise that Britain's economic prospects really are better than they have been for a generation. And while they are unlikely to give the Government much credit for this performance, they could well be repelled by the sort of ill-founded denigration directed by Tony Blair at the Government's forecasts in Parliament yesterday.

The Labour leader's most serious complaint seemed to be that Britain's inflation and interest rates, while low by historic standards, happen to be minutely higher than the interest rates and inflation on the Continent. This is hardly surprising: Germany and France are still mired in a seemingly endless recession. The more Mr Blair makes this kind of fatuous comparison, the more will voters believe that a Labour government might cause a European-style economic mess in Britain — by following the policies of the continental countries whose performance it so admires.

One reason for believing the Treasury's rosy economic forecasts for Britain is the

behaviour of world financial markets. The City and the world investment community — an audience which the Chancellor wants to impress almost as badly as he wants to court the voters — seems to be broadly endorsing Mr Clarke's bullish point of view. In the past few weeks British financial assets have become the darlings of the world market. The pound is suddenly the world's strongest currency, rising sharply in the past two months against the dollar, the yen and the German mark. The London stock market shrugged off last week's collapse on Wall Street. The interest that the Government has to pay on long-term bonds in Britain has fallen sharply relative to rates paid by Germany, America and France.

Investors who back their beliefs with their money seem to be increasingly optimistic about Britain. On close inspection, however, there are two important qualifications to this good news. First the sharp rise in the pound, which is now 10 per cent higher against the mark than it was for most of last year, is already making life more difficult for Britain's manufacturers and exporters. If the pound were to rise much further, it could seriously jeopardise one of this Government's most important economic achievements, the gradual rebalancing of the economy towards industry and away from consumption.

Secondly, it is not at all clear whom the markets are really backing when they bid up the pound. Are investors showing their confidence in today's Tory Britain? Or are they in fact voting with their wallets for a Labour Britain with a single currency and no pound? If an opinion poll is published which shows that the Tories have a chance of beating Labour, the market's reaction will be fascinating to watch.

## THE WORLD OF DUNBLANE

Wolverhampton's experience, Australia's action

The first few years of school are among the most sensitive of children's lives. Too young to be hardened by life, but old enough to comprehend evil, infant pupils are exquisitely vulnerable victims of adult violence. That is why acts of random terror against them, such as those at Dunblane or Wolverhampton, cause anguish beyond measure to parents across the land.

The attack by a machete-wielding man on adults and children at St Luke's School in Wolverhampton was met by astonishing displays of bravery. Lisa Potts, a 21-year-old nursery nurse, managed to push five or six children to safety while the attacker set about her ferociously. Another woman threw herself over her son to protect him after the knifeman had hit her across the back of the head. A father gave chase to the man as he tried to escape.

If any positive moral can be drawn from this appalling episode, it has little to do with school security. St Luke's was already more secure than most schools, and the assailant had to scale two walls to reach the play area. Horrible as the injuries were, the fact remains that in Dunblane, 16 children and their teacher were killed. In Wolverhampton, nobody died.

The difference, of course, lies in the weapons. Guns kill faster and more easily than knives, machetes or blowtorches. Thomas Hamilton, in Dunblane, was able to wipe out most of a class in the critical few minutes before help could be summoned.

The attacker at St Luke's may have had intentions that were just as evil, but he had not the tools to achieve them.

As the Dunblane inquiry draws to an end, the Government will have to consider new ways of tightening gun control. Yesterday it was claimed by Colin Campbell, QC, lawyer for the families of the victims, that the Central Scotland Police failed in their duty of discretion in the issuing of gun licences.

But even if existing laws were adequately enforced, there would still be a strong public inclination in favour of stricter controls. In this, Australia is taking a lead. After the massacre in Tasmania, took instant advantage of the national mood to hold a "gun summit" at which it was agreed that federal and state governments would enact a ban on automatic and semi-automatic weapons. Although many states are now under pressure to water down the proposals, it is cheering to see a frontier country peopled by the descendants of pioneers showing widespread support for restrictions on gun ownership.

Yesterday the Australian Government also announced a clampdown on violence on television, with new film classifications, and V-chips installed on all new TVs. All over the English-speaking world, people are reacting against the insidious culture of violence. Australia's political culture allows for faster change. But where that country leads, Britain may yet follow.

## Case for giving MPs a pay rise

From Sir Michael Ogden, QC

Sir, The salaries suggested for MPs and ministers by the Senior Salaries Review Body (report, July 4; letters, July 5) are much too low. On both sides of the House the percentage of competent people must be lower than at any time in the past 50 years. To pay less would be absurd folly.

I would not mind a large number of inept MPs being grossly overpaid if there is a chance that at the next but one election (it is too late for the next one) there are enough people of ability to fill the ministerial posts which matter.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL OGDEN,  
Crown Office Row, Temple, EC4A 3DF.

From Mrs Patricia Gray and others

Sir, What other profession would be so maligned as Members of Parliament have been, following recommendations of an independent pay review body?

Not for MPs the 48-hour working week about to be imposed by the European Court of Justice: they can expect a 90-hour working week.

The complaints that reach them range from one-legged pigeons on the lawn and genuine parental dismay that a child is not accepted for the school of their choice to treatment of Tibetans and alleged inadequate funding of overseas aid. They must be patient, encouraging, hard-working and, above all, available. They must be legal experts, marriage guidance counsellors, brilliant orators and, these days, reasonably good looking!

The House of Commons itself is demanding — so are the endless standing and select committees and all-party meetings which take place all day and every day outside the Chamber. At weekends and in recesses the MP is "on show" in the constituency. Social functions, fund-raising events, advice bureaux, donations expected and given, are all part of the job. A quiet weekend with the family is a rare luxury.

And the cost? Most businessmen have "expense" allowances to cover hospitality given, taxis taken, and donations and prizes offered. British MPs pay out of their own pocket, get no reimbursement and are paid less than most of their continental colleagues.

As personal aides to MPs we are probably better placed than most to testify to their dedication. Their service should be recognised, not misrepresented. The Senior Salaries Review Body has done just this. We ask that the public stop knocking their efforts. We suppose that it is too much to ask the press to follow suit.

Yours etc,  
PATRICIA GRAY,  
BARBARA CAMPBELL,  
JACKIE DAVIES,  
SUE DENNIS,  
BERYL GOLDSMITH,  
LORRAINE WHITE,  
House of Commons.

From Dr Neil Macfarlane

Sir, I support fully the recommendations of the Senior Salaries Review Body that MPs should receive a 26 per cent increase in pay. I am sure that the review body took into account a wide range of factors such as comparabilities, productivity, recruitment and rewards before making its recommendation.

Would that those same MPs allowed university lecturers access to an independent pay review body to make a similarly strong case, rather than forcing, through reduced government funding, university employers to offer only a 1.5 per cent increase. It is widely accepted that the relative pay of university lecturers has fallen some 30 per cent below its correct level, with the top of the main grade currently about £27,000.

Yours faithfully,  
NEIL MACFARLANE,  
(Chairman, 1994-1996),  
Association of University & College Lecturers,  
104 Albert Road,  
Southsea, Hampshire,  
SO9 4JL.

From Mr Henry Button

Sir, Some sixty years ago, when I became a civil servant, Permanent Secretaries were paid £3,000 a year and Cabinet ministers £5,000. Today, according to *Whitaker*, Permanent Secretaries are on a scale from £90,000 to £150,000. If the old differential were restored, the ministers would receive at least £150,000 a year.

Yours faithfully,  
HENRY BUTTON,  
7 Arnhurst Court,  
Grange Road, Cambridge,  
CB2 3JL.

## Fair's fair

From Mrs Julie A. Davey

Sir, As we are asked to pay "excess postage" for mail which is not sufficiently stamped, why do we not get 6p refund for every first-class letter which is not delivered the next day?

Yours faithfully,  
J. DAVEY,  
28 Bentley Road,  
Tadworth, Norfolk,  
NR11 1JL.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-762 5000

## Increased competition in the air

From the Chief Executive of British Airways

Sir, Your leader today, "Air wars", lacked balance on important issues for the United Kingdom, its economy and employment. The real issue is whether our airline industry will be able to maintain its leading position in world aviation in the face of growing competition from larger airline alliances, backed by other European governments.

Britain is the world leader in air transport. The industry employs hundreds of thousands of people and generates billions of pounds for our country. Our continental competitors are jealously determined to wrest this position from us. Their airlines already have similar alliances to our proposed link with American Airlines. We want to be able to compete with them on equal terms, for the benefit of British customers, British employees, and Britain as a whole.

Far from what you suggest, our alliance with American Airlines will lead to substantially increased competition between the US and the UK and Europe, with more airlines flying on more transatlantic routes. This will result in lower fares and greater choice for the millions of people flying across the Atlantic every year.

British Airways does not have a monopoly position in the air transport

industry, as you suggest that Virgin will argue, or on the North Atlantic. We compete with 25 different airlines between the UK and the US and with 70 airlines between Europe and the US.

Our alliance with American will pave the way for "open skies" between the UK and the US, removing all remaining restrictions on flights between the two countries. Carriers are already queuing up to take advantage of this. We are not afraid of increased competition. Others may be.

It is still possible for airlines to get slots at Heathrow. In the past five years alone, more than 40 airlines have launched services for the first time at the airport, and others have increased their slot holding fivefold.

Heathrow is British Airways' home base, so it is not surprising we have more slots at the airport than others. In fact, as you state, we have 38 per cent of them. This is a substantially smaller percentage than our competitors at their home bases. Lufthansa, for instance, has 60 per cent of the slots at its Frankfurt home base.

Yours sincerely,  
ROBERT AYLING,  
Chief Executive,  
British Airways,  
Speedbird House, Heathrow Airport,  
Hounslow, Middlesex,  
TW6 2AP.

## London as host

From Professor Sir Colin Spedding and Professor John Clifton

Sir, Mr John Studd recently drew attention (letter, June 21) to the need for a large international convention centre (ICC) for London capable of hosting major international meetings that can attract attendances of 10,000 or more delegates. He is not alone in believing that as a result of this deficiency London is losing out as a leader in world trade and scientific, engineering and medical research.

Acutely aware of this need, this Council, in consultation with the Royal Society, the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, the Royal Academy of Engineering and London Medicine, has established a project to build a London Millennium ICC as a contribution from UK science, technology, engineering and medicine to mark the millennium. In the six months that the project has been in existence it has gained support far more widespread than we could possibly have anticipated.

## Painkiller error

From Professor Michael Rosen

Sir, The tragic post-operative death reported after epidural diamorphine because of an error in prescription interpretation (reports, July 3) must have caused concern to many patients awaiting surgery.

There were, apparently, many faults in the Princess Grace Hospital case, including a lack of communication with the resident medical and nursing staff, no protocol for the management of opiates, a lack of observation of the effects of overdose, and — of concern to medical as well as surgical patients — no trained resuscitation team in the hospital. Such a catalogue indicates woeful failures by management and participating consultants.

The Royal College of Anaesthetists, when I was president and since, and the Royal College of Surgeons of England have advocated the introduction of an acute-pain team consisting of a

consultant anaesthetist and surgeon, dedicated full or part-time nurses, and a pharmacist to supervise education for, organisation, innovation and audit of the post-operative pain service.

This has made sophisticated methods such as epidural and patient-controlled analgesia widely available with greatly improved quality of pain relief, and with safety.

This service has now been achieved in most NHS and some private hospitals, placing the UK equal to some, and in advance of most, developed countries. It is now time that an acute pain service is provided in every hospital practising major surgery with targets, as exist only in Wales, to reduce the incidence of severe post-operative pain year by year.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL ROSEN,  
(President, Royal College of Anaesthetists, 1988-91),  
45 Hollybush Road, Cardiff,  
CF11 3JL.

## Burns in love

From Mr Alistair Campsie

Sir, Hugh Douglas, author of a new biography of Robert Burns (Books, July 4), apparently describes a letter from the poet claiming to have made love to his future wife (Jean Armour) on a cobble floor as an "outrageous outburst". Another authority quoted by your reviewer refers to the same letter as "unspeakable vulgarity".

The fact is that, on the day concerned (March 3, 1789), Jean was giving birth to twins while Burns himself was suffering from a broken or dislocated kneecap. The act of congress thus appears to reside more in read-

ers' minds than in actuality.

Whatever the identity of the woman in question, Burns chose to send the letter to an Edinburgh legal acquaintance, who in turn showed it to the poet's friend, Clarinda. As Edinburgh, then as now, is entirely devoid of spoken malicious gossip, especially if it is in the least salacious, no one understands how the contents came to be so publicly known and so obsessively quoted; but it is entirely possible that certain upright citizens nudged and winked themselves into eternity.

Yours truly,  
ALISTAIR CAMPSIE,  
Piper's Private Hotel,  
Montrose, Tayside.

## Colomberie House

From the Secretary of Save Britain's Heritage

Sir, In his letter of July 3 (as in his evidence to Jersey's Royal Court in 1992) Professor Fielden emphasised that Dorothy Stroud, in her book *The Architecture of Sir John Soane*, first published in 1961, mentioned Colomberie House, Jersey, only in the appendix, citing it as a "design for re-modelling, probably not executed".

Your readers should know that a much expanded and revised edition of Miss Stroud's book was published in 1984, under the title *Sir John Soane*, Architect, stating that "the house has not so far been identified".

In other words, neither Miss Stroud nor anyone she corresponded with in Jersey was aware that Clement Hemery's house was Colomberie House and that it still existed.

Yours faithfully,  
EMMA PHILLIPS, Secretary,  
Save Britain's Heritage,  
68 Battersea High Street, SW11,  
London SW11 3JL.

From Mr Ptolemy Dean, RIBA

Sir, I am disappointed that Professor Fielden feels unable to attribute alterations carried out at Colomberie House in Jersey to Sir John Soane.

As part of my 18-month scholarship visiting over 150 of Soane's surviving buildings, I examined Colomberie House and found that not only had the majority of Soane's proposed alterations been carried out, in spirit and detail, but that they clearly fitted into the context of his work elsewhere. I would be willing to demonstrate this to the tenants and the Jersey Royal Court if it would save this nationally important building from demolition.

Yours faithfully,  
PTOLEMY DEAN,  
(Soane Monuments Trust Fellow),  
Sir John Soane's Museum,  
13 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2,  
London WC2A 3EE.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-762 5046.

## Initiative to end Lincoln impasse

From the Reverend Andrew P. de Berry

Sir, The Lincoln ferment between its dean and sub-dean (reports, July 5, 6) can and must be resolved.

Legal factors may debar Archbishop Carey from sacking anyone outright, but that ought not to deter him from exercising an initiative that renders clerics "redundant", by prohibiting their ongoing ministry. Any breach in the Ordinal service, by which all clergy are enjoined to be "wholesome examples of the flock of Christ", are grounds enough for a bishop or archbishop to censure, if not terminate a cleric's ministry.

After seven years, the offending parties in the Lincoln chapter must be shamed into retirement. Furthermore, full pension pay-offs should be made subject to each individual agreeing to a term of counselling in order to find peace, if not with each other, then as far as possible with themselves.

Yours etc,  
ANDREW DE BERRY,  
The Vicarage,  
Southwell Road,  
Thurgarton, Nottinghamshire,  
NG16 9JL.

## Counting the years

From Mr F. R. Salinger

Sir, The Romans were not stupid. Of course the first year AD is year 1 (letters, June 27; July 2, 5) just as the first page of a book is page 1 and the first day of January is January 1; whoever believed of January 0? It is a matter of semantics, not mathematics: first is the position in sequence corresponding with the number 1.

As a result, the first century was completed at the end of year 100 when 100 years had passed and the second millennium will end at the end of the year 2000. Do your correspondents, who regret that the first year AD was not numbered "0", consider that the year AD 1000 was the end of millennium 0 and that we are nearing the end of millennium number 1?

Yours faithfully,  
F. R. SALINGER,  
Greenacres,  
Southlands Lane, West Chillingham,  
Pulborough, West Sussex,  
BN18 9JL.

From Mr Robin S. Howard

Sir, If Mrs Gertrud Walton (letter, July 5) were to count the fingers and thumbs on both her hands applying the system she apparently advocates for counting the years in a decade, she would end up with a total of nine.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBIN S. HOWARD,  
8 South Street,  
Titchfield, Hampshire,  
RG29 1JL.

## Rebecca's home

From Ms Margaret Forster

Sir, It may be a shame that the new version of Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca* is not to be filmed in Cornwall, but Mr Malcolm Brown of Restormel Borough Council is wrong to say, as he did in your report (July 2), that the book was written there.

*Rebecca* was begun in Egypt, where Daphne du Maurier was living, due to the posting of her husband, and completed later in Hampshire. It was her yearning for Cornwall that inspired the wonderful novel and though she had already glimpsed Menabilly she did not live in it until five years after she completed *Rebecca*.

Yours sincerely,  
MARGARET FORSTER  
(author, *Daphne du Maurier*, 1993),  
Grasmoor House,  
Lloneswater, Cumbria,  
LA2 7JL.

## Becket's casket

From Mr Ian Curteis

Sir, I wonder if British Rail's Pension Fund — which successfully bought the Becket chalice for £500,000 in 1979 and successfully sold it last week for over £4 million (report, July 5; letters, July 6) — could possibly be persuaded to act as acquisitions adviser to the British Museum, National Heritage Memorial Fund, National Art Collections Fund, National Heritage Lottery Fund, the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Department of National Heritage?

Yours truly,  
IAN CURTEIS,  
The Mill House,  
Colin St Aldwyns,  
Cirencester, Gloucestershire,  
GL7 5JL.

## The end

From Mr N. B. Adams

Sir, In his report today on the release in the USA of *Independence Day*, a film about the invasion of Earth by aliens, Martin Fletcher commits the unforgivable crime of giving away the ending.

When the aliens do arrive, I hope the first person they cart off is your Mr Fletcher.

Yours faithfully,  
NIGEL ADAMS,  
10 DeWalden Court,  
85 New Cavendish Street, W1,  
London W1G 7JL.



## COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
July 9: The President of the Republic of South Africa today commenced a State Visit in London to the Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh.

The Princess Royal, accompanied by Captain Timothy Laurence RN, welcomed the President on behalf of the Queen at the Dorchester Hotel. The President of the Republic of South Africa, accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Zanele Dlamini, arrived at the hotel at 10.30 am. The President and his wife were met by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh at the hotel.

The President and his wife were then taken to the Palace by the Queen's Guard. The President and his wife were then taken to the Palace by the Queen's Guard. The President and his wife were then taken to the Palace by the Queen's Guard.

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## Hampton Court puts on its summer best

## British gardening celebrates in style

BY ALAN TOOGOOD  
HORTICULTURE  
CORRESPONDENT

THE Hampton Court Flower Show has wide appeal. Plant connoisseurs to weekend gardeners will find plenty to interest them.

The centrepiece of the show, which opens to the public tomorrow, is the Daily Mail garden pavilion which celebrates British gardens and gardening. A cottage garden complex with stream and water features, a formal garden with architectural planting, and a formal lakeside garden with traditional plantings of roses, clematis and honeysuckle.

All that is best in hardy summer flowers and plants, and exotics, will be found in the floral marquees. The current interest in cottage garden plants and herbaceous perennials is reflected by many exhibitors. The Royal Horticultural Society's Garden Plants of Whitechapel, Hampshire, have created some pleasing plant combinations, such as *Allium nigrum* with globular white flowerheads, and *Salvia* "Purpurea" with spikes of purple flowers.

Breeding Gardens, of Diss, Norfolk, are featuring a new perennial forerunner called "Maytime" with bright cream and green variegated leaves and light blue flowers. It is planted along a dwarf purple border.

A perennial outstanding for its hardiness and colour is *francois* "Rogerson's Form" shown by Gleece Cottage Plants, of Warkleigh, Devon. It is a bushy perennial with a dense, rounded habit and a profusion of small, bright blue flowers.

Hall Farm Nursery, of Oswestry, Shropshire, have included many unusual plants in their display of hardy perennials. *Campanula medium* with bold spikes of white flowers.

The Lady Elton has succeeded the Lady Susan Harvey as Lady in Waiting to the Queen. The Queen's Household, Patron: RT Global Challenge, this afternoon named the yacht taking part in the World's Longest Yacht Race "Save the Children" at St Katharine Haven, London E1.

**CLARENCE HOUSE**  
July 9: Miss Jane Walker-Okeover today had the honour of being presented to the Queen Mother when Her Majesty, on behalf of the Queen, invested her with the insignia of a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order.

The Hon. Mrs. Rachel has succeeded Miss Jane Walker-Okeover as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

**ST JAMES'S PALACE**  
July 9: The Princess of Wales, this afternoon attended the launch of the *Rosie*, a new publication and exhibition portraying ethnic diversity in the making of Britain at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness afterwards gave a Reception for the West Indian Ex-Servicemen and Women's Association at St James's Palace.

**YORK HOUSE**  
July 9: The Duke of Kent, President, the Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies, this afternoon presented His Royal Highness General Sir John Kinnear, GCB, GCMG, GBE, to the Queen Mother when Her Majesty, on behalf of the Queen, invested her with the insignia of a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order.

**THATCHED HOUSE LODGE**  
July 9: Princess Alexandra this morning opened the Centenary Building of the Royal Lancaster Infirmary, Ashby Road, Lancaster, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire (Sir Simon Taylor).

Her Royal Highness, Chancellor, this afternoon presided at a conference for the confederation of Degrees at Lancaster University.

Cid, Spanish patriot, Valencia, 1899; William the Silent, Prince of Orange, assassinated, Delft, 1584; George Stubbs, painter, London, 1806; Louis Jacques Madaule, painter, physician and inventor of the daguerotype, Bry-sur-Marne, 1858; John Arbutnot Fisher, 1st Baron Fisher, Admiral of the Fleet, 1820.

In the Wars of the Roses, the Yorkists defeated the Lancastrians and captured King Henry VI at Northampton, 1460.

The Paris Metro opened, 1900.

**Anniversaries**  
BIRTHS: John Calvin, Protestant reformer, Noyon, France, 1509; Frederick Murray, novelist, London, 1872; Camille Pissarro, painter, St Thomas, Virgin Islands, 1830; James McNeill Whistler, painter, 1804; Lowell, Massachusetts, 1824; Proust, novelist, Auteuil, France, 1871; Carl Orff, composer, Munich, 1895.

DEATHS: Hadrian, Roman Emperor 117-138, Baiae, Italy, 138; El



A floral visitor enjoys the view over Long Water towards the palace

Herbs are also in vogue. Jekka's Herb Farm, of Alveston, Bristol, have created carpets of thymes, a study in pink and lilac flowers and silver and gold foliage.

Sweetpeas are being shown by several exhibitors including Diane Sewell, of Over, Cambridgeshire, who is featuring a cultivar of her own raising, the bright purple, fragrant, "Geoff Hamilton".

Among exhibitors of pink is Three Counties Nurseries, of Bridport, Dorset, who are showing several new cultivars including "Devon Joy" (pink with carmine splashes) and "Dawlish Joy" (cream white with salmon splashes).

Among the exotic plants is a

colourful collection of bougainvilleas from Westlake Nurseries, of Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, and tree ferns from Richard Hardy Ferns, of Tenbury Wells, Hereford and Worcester.

*Dicksonia squarrosa* with slim black trunk is an elegant fern for the conservatory.

Visitors to the plant heritage marquee are greeted by a colour display of clematis from France, including some that are hardy and suitable for planting in the garden in Britain.

The central feature in this marquee is a collection of saracenias or trumpet pluchers (sarracenia plants), probably the largest collection ever shown in

Britain. The rarest is *Sarracenia oreophila* which is almost extinct in the wild. They have been saged by John Alnsworth, of Bamber Bridge, Lancashire.

John Vanderplank, of Kingston Seymour, Somerset, has staged a large collection of passion flowers, including a new species, *Passiflora quadrifaria*.

The show, in the parkland of Hampton Court Palace, is open today to RHS members only. Public days are from tomorrow to Sunday, from 10am to 7.30pm, closing at 5.30pm on Sunday. For further information telephone 0171-528 1744. For tickets call 0171-344 4444 (also available at the gate).

## Today's royal engagements

The Queen will visit HMS Lachar at Portsmouth at 11.35.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as senior fellow, will preside at the annual meeting of the Royal Academy of Engineering at 10.55.

The Prince of Wales, as Chancellor, will preside at the annual meeting of the University of Wales, Bangor, at 10.00; will visit Conwy Marina, the Morfa, Gwynedd, at 12.30 for a luncheon naming ceremony for the North Western and North Wales Sea Fisheries Committee's new Aran fishery patrol vessel, and will visit the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod at the Royal International Pavilion, Llangollen, at 2.15 to mark the 50th annual International eisteddfod to be held there.

The Duke of York will present the Mervyn challenge cup and medals at the Inter-Service Team shooting match at Bisley, Surrey, at 5.00; and will attend the Lucifer Golf Society Commonwealth dinner at the Savoy Hotel at 8.00.

The Princess Royal will open Rachel Children's Hospice, Kinross, at 10.30; and will visit Edinburgh Zoo, Murrayfield, at 12.30; will open a section of walkway along the water of between Balerno and Leith at Roched Bridge, Cannon Mills, Edinburgh, at 2.45; and will visit the new College, Duke Street, Leith, at 3.50. Later, as President of the Princess Royal Trust for Cancer, she will attend a celebration dinner given by the British Linen Association at the Ritz Hotel, at 7.30.

The Duke of Gloucester, as President of the Cancer Research Cam-

paign, will attend the annual meeting at Kensington Town Hall at 11.50.

The Duke of Kent, as President of the Imperial War Museum, will visit the Anglo-American Air Museum, Duxford, Cambridgeshire, at 11.00.

The Duchess of Kent will receive an honorary fellowship from the Royal College of Psychiatrists, the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, at 10.35.

Princess Alexandra, as Chancellor, will preside at ceremonies for the conferment of degrees and honorary degrees at Lancaster University at 12.25.

**St John's School, Leatherhead**  
Speech Day was held last Saturday at St John's School, Leatherhead. The Guest of Honour was Lord Curzon of Kedworth, QC, who distributed the prizes.

**Church news**  
The Rev Peter Robert Forster, Vicar of Beverley Minster (Diocese of York), to be Bishop of Chester in succession to the Right Rev Michael Alfred Baughen who resigns on August 31.

**Church in Wales**  
The Rev Tudor Francis Lloyd Griffiths, Curate of Newton St Peter (Diocese of Swansea and Brecon) has been instituted as Vicar of Godeliff and Whitson and Nash.

## Glaxo Wellcome ABSW Science Writers' Awards

The Glaxo Wellcome ABSW Science Writers' Awards 1995 were presented yesterday by Sir Richard Sykes, deputy chairman and chief executive, Glaxo Wellcome plc, Glaxo Wellcome, in association with the Association of British Science Writers, makes six awards annually to the writers and broadcasters who, in the opinion of the judges, have done most to enhance the quality of science journalism.

The Awards were presented as follows:  
The best feature or series of features in a national or regional newspaper on a science subject: Geoffrey Carr, *The Economist*.

The best feature or series of features in a specialist journal on a science subject: Geoffrey Carr, *The Economist*.

The best news item or series of news items on a science subject: James Williams, BBC News and Current Affairs.

The best radio programme or contribution to a series of programmes on a science subject: Geoff Deehan, Head of Factual Programmes, Union Pictures, and Johnny Vaughan, Presenter and Writer.

The best television programme or contribution to a series of programmes on a science subject: Isabelle Robin, BBC Television.

The best communication of science to the public: Anne McNaught, BBC Radio 4 Science Unit, and Sue Nelson, Presenter.

## Forthcoming marriages

**Mr R.L.A. Cecil and Miss P.M. Shone**  
The engagement is announced between Rupert, eldest son of the Hon Mrs Patterson, of Kisby Farm, Echinwell, and Mr David Cecil, and Penelope, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs David Shone, of Willaston, South Wirral.

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BMD'S: 0171 680 6880  
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

## PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1922  
FAX: 0171 481 9313

**DEATHS**  
BURTON - On 6th July 1996, peacefully at home, after a long illness, Mrs. Burton, nee. Burton, aged 87 years, wife of the late Mr. Burton, of 10, St. John's Road, London. Burial at St. John's Church, London. Family flowers only. Donations to St. John's Church, London. Enquiries to J.B. Burrows, 10, St. John's Road, London. Tel: (0171) 481 4000.

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## OBITUARIES

## ERNEST ARMSTRONG

Ernest Armstrong, PC, Labour MP for Durham North West, 1964-87, and a junior minister in the Labour Governments of 1974-79, died on July 8, aged 81. He was born on January 12, 1915.

A CLASSIC Labour MP of his time, Ernest Armstrong grew up against a background of the pits and the chapel, witnessing the Depression of the 1930s in the North East. Thus he was a socialist by heredity and experience, his political convictions buttressed by his Nonconformist religious faith. He escaped the mines by becoming a schoolmaster, serving his community as a lay preacher and a local government committee chairman, with his spare time devoted to refereeing football matches. He was above all a man of Co Durham. He was born there, educated there and worked there before becoming a Durham MP for 23 years.

Ernest Armstrong, youngest of a family of nine, was the son and brother of miners. He was born at Crook, Co Durham, and a scholarship took him to Wolsingham Grammar School. For a miner's bright young son in those days a career in education was the best way to avoid following his family down the pits and he succeeded in obtaining a place at Leeds Teacher Training College.

His first post in 1937 was at what was known as a "dole school," a centre trying to keep unemployed boys between 14 and 18 off the streets. No writing materials were provided at these primitive institutions and the only "textbooks" were newspapers brought in by Armstrong. Such experiences during the Depression did not make him bitter but they reinforced his belief in education as the main force for social change.

He had been a member of the Labour Party since he was 16 and worked actively for the party throughout his career in education. He was a teacher in primary schools until 1952, when he was appointed headmaster of Unsworth Colliery Junior Mixed School. He fought Sunderland South unsuccessfully in the 1955 general



election and in the following year was elected to Sunderland Town Council, where he became chairman of the education committee. He was returned as MP for Durham North West in Labour's election victory of 1964 and he represented this seat — which changed with the redrawing of boundaries — for the rest of his political career.

In the House he was noted as a fighter for regional policies and better educational opportunities. Equality of educational opportunity for all children, the preservation of rural services and the raising of the school leaving age were constant themes with him both then and throughout his parliamentary career. From 1967 to 1970 he served

as a government whip and was opposition whip throughout the Heath administration of 1970-74. After the Wilson victory in the first election of 1974 he was appointed Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Education — a post for which so much of his previous life had fitted him. As such he was closely involved in the introduction of

comprehensive schooling, an issue dear to his heart. Indeed, in pursuit of this, though normally regarded as moderate and undogmatic, he gave some of his most authoritarian performances in the House. In trenchant language which dismayed Conservative MPs he detailed root-and-branch Government policies to dismember the direct grant system with the greatest possible speed and to compel all local authorities to go comprehensive. "We intend to brook no procrastination or unnecessary delay," he declared, in support of his Minister, Reg (now Lord) Prentice, who was in a similarly bullish mood. (Ironically the latter was only two years later to find himself increasingly out of sympathy with Labour's most radical policies and join the Conservative Party.)

However, Armstrong did not keep his education job for long, much though he would have liked it, and strongly though he identified with government policy. He was moved in the summer reshuffle of 1975 to a post of similar rank at the Department of the Environment, where he promptly announced his intention to abolish the principle of the tied cottage, which he duly did.

In 1981, with the Thatcher Government firmly established and therefore no prospect of further ministerial office, he was happy to become deputy chairman of Ways and Means and second Deputy Speaker. After the 1983 election it had been expected that he would become chairman of Ways and Means, but as a result of some Labour infighting his colleague Harold Walker was named chairman while Armstrong remained deputy chairman until he left the Commons in 1987.

Armstrong was appointed to the Privy Council in 1979. He was vice-president of the Methodist Conference in 1974-75 and served for many years as deputy chairman of Municipal Mutual Insurance.

He was married in 1941 to Hannah Lamb, who survives him with their son and their daughter, Hilary Armstrong; she succeeded him as the MP for Durham North West when he retired from the Commons.

## JOSEPH GREEN

Joseph Green, Yiddish film director, died on June 20 aged 96. He was born on April 23, 1900.

ALTHOUGH fewer than four years of Joseph Green's long life were spent as an active filmmaker, the four pictures he made between 1936 and 1939 represent a high point in the history of the extinct Yiddish cinema as well as a precious relic of European Jewish culture before the Holocaust.

Green was born Joseph Greenberg in Lodz, Poland. His middle-class family allowed him to enrol in a local drama school at 15, and his subsequent stage training took him in turn to Warsaw and Berlin, where he joined a touring Yiddish theatre.

Late in 1923 he arrived in New York and worked in Yiddish theatre groups. He briefly went to Hollywood, and claimed to have been an extra in Cecil B. De Mille's *King of Kings*. Certainly, he appeared as a member of the synagogue congregation in *The Jazz Singer*.

He returned to the New York stage, working with the Yiddish star Maurice Schwartz. The practice, prevalent in the early 1930s, of recycling old silent films by adding soundtracks to them also gave him work. He dubbed the voice of Joseph in *Yosel in Mistrain* (Joseph in the Land of Egypt), concocted out of a biblical film of 1914.

Greenberg's payment for his work on *Yosel* was a print of the film, which he took with him on his international theatrical tours. He discovered an enthusiastic market for Yiddish-speaking films, particularly in Poland, with its Jewish population of more than three million. The money he made from exhibiting *Yosel in Mistrain* and *Bar Mitsva*, another American Yiddish film he acquired to go with it, inspired him to go into production on his own account. He set up a film company with an office in Warsaw, where production costs were low and many of Europe's finest Yiddish actors lived.

His old boss Maurice Schwartz then proposed a film version of his stage success *Tevye*, later the origin of



A scene from *Yiddle with his Fiddle*, 1936

*Fiddler on the Roof*. However, Greenberg was hesitant about a film dealing with mixed marriages, in the anti-Semitic atmosphere in Poland.

Instead, he was inspired to find a vehicle for Molly Picon, the effervescent New York-born star who had learnt Yiddish as an adult and was at that moment trying to develop a European career. The resulting film was *Yidl mitn Fidl* (*Yiddle With His Fiddle*), a marvellously vivacious musical set in the Jewish community of Kazimierz, near Warsaw, with the enchanting Picon disguised as a boy for most of the film. Green (he had now definitively abbreviated his name) co-directed this and his next film with the more experienced Jan Nowina-Przybylski. *Yiddle* proved an immense triumph, the first Yiddish-language film to enjoy wide international distribution.

His next film, *Der Purimspiler* (*The Jester*), set in a Jewish settlement just before the First World War, had less success than *Yiddle*. Molly Picon's husband and manager Jacob Kalich, however, suggested that Green should film Picon's 1927 stage success *Mamele*. The comic-pathetic story of the put-upon Cinderella heroine proved almost as popular as Green's first triumph.

Practically back-to-back

with *Mamele*, Green made his own favourite film and the greatest tear-jerker in the Yiddish film canon, *A Brivle der Mamen* (*A Letter to Mother*). The statuesque star Lucy Gherman played the matriarch whose tormented odyssey of loss and separation takes her from pre-1914 Ukraine to postwar America.

With war threatening, Green shot both films in a mere three months, and rushed through the post-production and Polish release. In December 1938 he closed his Warsaw office and returned permanently to America. By the time *A Brivle der Mamen* opened in New York, Germany had invaded Poland and Green's producing career was at an end.

After the war he operated a chain of cinemas in New York, and a distribution company, Globe Pictures. In later life he gave a sardonic explanation for his withdrawal from production: "Six million potential moviegoers were missing." Only 10 per cent of Poland's Jewish population remained, and the Yiddish language itself seemed to be moving towards extinction. It seemed symbolic that Joseph Green's final film project was to redub his old success *Yidl mitn Fidl* into English and rename it *Castles in the Air*.

His wife died 14 years ago. They had no children.

## DICK HILLS

Dick Hills, comedy writer, died on June 6 aged 70. He was born on January 17, 1926.

DICK HILLS and Sid Green were comedy writers whose partnership lasted for 25 years. They produced material for everyone in the business, but there was a particularly long, fruitful collaboration with Eric Morecambe and Ernie Wise during the 1960s.

After the poor reception of the first Morecambe and Wise television series on the BBC, Hills and Green were given the job of resurrecting the comedians' careers on independent television. It was a tight, affectionate working partnership, for which Morecambe gratefully rechristened

his joke writers "Sick and Did".

The son of a shopkeeper in Eltham, southeast London, Richard Michael Hills was educated at Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham School. He became the school captain, and during the war served as a lieutenant in the RNVR in minesweepers. He married his childhood sweetheart, Pamela.

He left the Navy to study English at Magdalene College, Cambridge, and returned to his old school as an English master. He was also a keen sportsman and it was over a post-match beer at the Old Askean Rugby Club in 1952 that he agreed to join Sid Green — who had been a captain of the school two years

after him — in writing a pantomime for the old boys' drama society. The collaboration was such a success that they decided to write more together.

Hills submitted material to the BBC but was told he needed more experience. So he and Green went to see Dave King at the Adelphi. King liked their material, and worked with them. The result of this was the *Dave King Show*, which started on BBC Television in 1957 and ran for two years, then switching to ATV, and later being taken to America (Hills and Green accompanying King).

In 1956 Hills gave up teaching to concentrate on writing full-time. During the late 1950s and early 1960s he wrote material for Arthur Askey,

Jewel and Warriss, Jon Pertwee, the ill-fated Eamonn Andrews show, Roy Castle, Harry Secombe, and for Bruce Forsyth, who was then competing *Sunday Night at the London Palladium*. In one year, he worked on a staggering 56 shows. He also found time to play rugby for Kent (he earned 12 caps for them) and soccer for the Showbiz XI.

The Morecambe and Wise collaboration began in 1961. Their previous series for the BBC, *Running Wild* in 1954, had been a disaster, but ATV had offered them their own live 13-week show. Ben Warriss recommended that they use Hills and Green as their scriptwriters.

The four planned the first series together, and it proved a hit, partly because of what at

first appeared to be a calamity. Equity, the actors' union, brought its members out on strike. Morecambe and Wise belonged to another union (the Variety Artists Federation) which meant that they could carry on performing. But it left them bereft of a supporting cast. So a format was developed whereby they performed the whole show almost unaided and, when they did need extra characters, drafted in Hills and Green. The show quickly gained an enormous following and established the comedians at the top of their profession.

As well as the excellent sketches they provided, Hills and Green also found and bought the Morecambe and Wise songs. *Two of a Kind*, from Johnny Mercer. They wrote the scripts for their three films: *The Intelligence Men* (1965), about a couple of incompetent spies; *That Riviera Touch* (1966), in which they become embroiled in jewel theft; and *The Magnificent Two* (1967) about a pair of travelling salesmen in a Latin American banana republic.

The ATV shows ran for six series from 1961 to 1968 and, when Morecambe and Wise then returned to the BBC, Hills and Green went with them. But after the first series Morecambe suffered a severe heart attack, which prevented him from returning to the screen for ten months. The Morecambe and Wise series resumed in July 1969 (now painstakingly rehearsed, and recorded at a much slower pace to reduce the strain on



Morecambe's heart). By that time Hills and Green had gone on to other work and were contractually barred from writing for them.

In 1970 Hills and Green decided that they had had enough of the British system, which gave relatively little power to the joke-writer. They went to America, where writers often became producers as well, and were far better rewarded for their pains. They remained there for four years, working with American comedians, but for family reasons Hills returned to Britain in 1974. (Green remained there, working on *The Johnny Carson Show*.)

In his later years Hills wrote for Tommy Cooper, Jasper Carrott and Russ Abbot. He retained his sense of humour,



Dick Hills, left, and Morecambe and Wise in *The Magnificent Two*, 1967

despite his failing health, and remained friends with Green, who survives him, and with whom he worked sporadically. His last project was a book,

*How to Stay Married* — an appropriate title for one who was so content with his own family life. He is survived by his wife Pamela and his three sons.

## PERSONAL COLUMN

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SPYHAWK ENTERPRISES. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the shareholders of the above company will be held at the offices of the company, 10, Abingdon Road, London W6 6AF, on Monday 10th July 1996, at 10.00 am. The business of the meeting is to receive and consider the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 1996, and to elect directors and auditors for the year ending 31st March 1997.

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# Can the BBC be saved from Birt?

How does John Birt get away with it? When the writer P.D. James attacks the Director-General's "arrogance", you get some measure of the coup d'état that took place at the BBC last month.

Until 1993, Baroness James was a BBC governor and ardent Birtist. An ardent Tory too, she supported the Director-General in all the unpopular reforms he was imposing. Now she mounts a public platform with Mark Tully and Terry Waite, and adds her voice to that of three former directors of the BBC World Service to say that Birt has now gone too far.

But Birt is getting away with it — so far — because he has the approval of his new Chairman. The BBC's governors, ostensible representatives of the public, are putty in the hands of the Chairman.

Lady James served as governor in the era, ended in April, of the former Chairman, Marmaduke (soon to be Lord) Hussey. The consensus seems to be that Hussey would not have permitted the massive restructuring revealed like a bolt from the blue on June 7. Indeed, he is said to have been on the point of sacking Birt.

But the new Chairman, Sir Christopher Bland, moved unhesitatingly into Birt's corner. He swiftly approved the massive restructuring of a corporation to which he was a newcomer. He gave Birt another four years in the job to carry it out.

Now that the scale of secrecy surrounding the impending revolution is known, the burning question is how much did Bland know and when did he know it? He does admit to discussing the plans "for several weeks with the Director-General".

A few weeks? A pretty pretty short time in which to approve a radical reorganisation that will end the autonomy both of BBC Radio and the English-language World Service, cause vast administrative disruption and cost vast sums in redundancy money.

There is a different interpretation of the sequence of events. It is that Bland was well aware of, and heartily approved of, the secret grand design well before he took over as Chairman in April.

If so, Birt's managerial genius has been underestimated. He has achieved something that virtually every other chief executive can only dream of: getting his good friend made his boss, enabling him to carry out what he wanted to do.

That the Chairman and DG are buddies is beyond doubt. They have much in common apart from their years at London Weekend Television. They share an unshakable faith in their own rightness. They use words like "insulting" and "grotesque" to

dismiss criticisms. And they like to win. With two such iron men at the top, no one within the BBC seems to dare to tell them what they do not want to hear. That their whole "Structure for a Digital Age" may be misconceived. That there's no need for the BBC to provide specialised services on new digital channels. That the BBC's duty is to remain the main provider of national television and radio.

The case against the plan is not hard to argue. American experience already shows that the big networks survive in the multi-channel world. The dizzying numbers of new channels simply compete for fragmenting fragments of audience, while the majority still relies on the major networks.

Anyway, what's the big hurry? The digital age is not going to arrive on January 1. The only reason for the haste to implement the new scheme would seem to be fear that somebody may stop it.

Elsewhere in the television industry, the sheer arbitrariness and disruptive potential of the BBC's proposed changes are mind-boggling. No logic or even efficiency savings are apparent. There is wonder that BBC Television, only now getting its drama right, is to be shaken up once again, with BBC Radio and the World Service tossed into the mix.

In union, Birt and Bland insist that the moves in progress will not downgrade BBC Radio. Nor that the separation of the World Service's news and programme-making into English and foreign-language parts will make any difference. Such certainty can exist only in the minds of those who give no value to the unquantifiable.

In fact, BBC Radio and BBC Television, just like the World Service and the domestic BBC, have a different ethos. There is genuine benefit to be had preserving their diverse structures and perspectives. To deny, for instance, that there is a cross-fertilisation of ideas between those working for the World Service at Bush House, whether in the English or the foreign-language services, is to ignore the intangibles that make excellence, creativity and independence.

Can the steamroller be stopped? It's up to the governors. They are collectively responsible for what the BBC does, even if they flounder in the mass of paper thrown at them in a hurry.

The public is now speaking. Through the press, through the Save the World Service group, through the protesting voices of three former Directors of the World Service. It is up to the governors to ensure that a great national institution is not allowed to be transformed by a small group of men meeting in private.



BRENDA MADDOX

## Fergie by any other name

JUST how does one address a royal divorcee who has lost her HRH status without putting one's foot in it? This dilemma presented itself to Elsa Murphy, a researcher with the independent TV company Middlemarch, which is planning a fly-on-the-wall documentary about the Duchess of York. The Duchess had asked them to outline their proposals by fax. But no one had a clue what to call her. Kate Waddington, the Duchess's personal secretary, saved the day; the correct form is "Dear Duchess".

**Last orders**  
STILL reeling from the shock of having seen their subsidised in-house pub Poppins and Riverside restaurant closed, staff at the Daily Express are having their personal freedoms further violated by being filmed for a documentary.

A Panorama team was recently invited into conference to film the editorial management's stance on the beef crisis and there is talk of the Express now being the subject of a Channel 4 documentary.

Incidentally, Lord Hollick's move to close Poppins with the idea that it would reduce staff's day-time drinking has not been entirely beneficial to their health. Workers now have to make a pilgrimage across the road to Doggets for their alcohol, using the subway at Blackfriars Bridge. Already three sub-editors have been mugged en route.

● **A VICTORY for Camelot in its fight with the pools.** Today the Advertising Standards Authority upholds a complaint from the lottery giants about a newspaper advert by Vernons which read "The Pools — a six-million-to-one chance at the jackpot... the National Lottery — a 15-million-to-one chance at the jackpot." Camelot successfully argued that the chances of a jackpot were in fact better than one in 15 million. One in 14,999,999 perhaps?

**Any ideas?**  
THE Management at Broadcasting House are resorting to seemingly desperate and curiously measures to get new ideas. Under the guise of a "What do you watch on the



Radio 1 controller Matthew Bannister, left, and Chris Evans

box? survey, they are now quizzing their own staff about their viewing habits. The study poses such questions as "Does the BBC provide good value for money?" and "If you could drop one BBC programme what would it be?" Respondents will also be asked to "feed into the creative process" and declare what new programme they would make for BBC Television. The prize for the best idea... a holiday for two.

**On the Edge**  
AS THE shutter came down yesterday on the scramble for bids for the new Greater London FM radio licence, Chris Evans's ever lucrative Ginger Productions finally showed its hand.



The bid, led by a consortium including Michael Caine, Sam Alder, and the MCP concert promoter Tim Parsons as well as Evans, promises to take risks, nurture new talent and play non-mainstream music which will not be given a fair airing elsewhere. The station, which if successful would be called FM104.9 The Edge, will be the first targeted at 15 to 24-year-olds.

Perhaps the person who will be watching most nervously from the sidelines as the bids are considered is the Radio 1 Controller, Matthew Bannister. It was his masterstroke which brought Evans to Radio 1's breakfast show, transforming it from a disaster to the most talked-

about live music show on radio. Evans's contract with Radio 1 ends at the end of 1997.

## Risky business

BAD omens for the much talked about new paper *Sunday Business*. After only a few issues, changes are already being dropped. The most recent came in an reference to Solotec, the flourishing South London Training and Enterprise Council. *Sunday Business* said Solotec went bankrupt last year. In fact it has recently been given the lowest financial risk status of all the Tecs in London.

## Price of fame

WANT to appear in a feature film? Scarlett Films at Pine-wood Studios in Buckinghamshire have placed national newspaper advertisements offering aspiring actors the chance to appear as an extra and attend a day's shoot for a movie "based on a Thomas Hardy story set in 19th-century Dorset".

Prospective stars have until July 31 to register their interest — but there is a catch. They have to become "investors" in the film, coughing up for a minimum of 1,000 shares at a price of £1 a share for the privilege.

# Vauxhall ad chief takes Blair for a spin



Tony Blair: new advertising chief

AS the Tories busily declare pre-election ad tactics and unveil the latest Labour-bashing poster, Tony Blair's agency — BMP DDB — has recruited a new chief to help to mastermind its own advertising offensive.

She is Daryl Fielding, 38, and comes from Lowe Howard Spink, where she was in charge of Vauxhall, the agency's biggest, £70 million-billing, piece of business. Fielding brings a colourful pedigree to the post, having worked on everything from Coca-Cola to Westabix.

A firm Labour voter, she will report directly to Chris Powell, BMP's chief executive and Blair's equivalent to Maurice Saatchi, as the agency's first dedicated account director on the Labour Party business.

"I've gone from one of the biggest accounts in the country to the most important," she says. "It's the advertising job of the decade and I feel very privileged to be doing it."

While running Vauxhall, Fielding

## ADVERTISING

carved a reputation for bringing order and a sense of organisation to the business. She is, it is said, good at orchestrating things. Which should stand her in good stead for Blair and his tribe.

SAATCHI and Saatchi has thrown its weight behind the futuristic world of the new media by launching a business unit, called Saatchi and Saatchi Vision. The enterprise is aimed at giving clients expert advice on a broad range of services, from setting up web sites to exploiting marketing opportunities.

Evidently, Vision was launched in response to exhaustive research which showed that companies must rise to such challenges as the advent of the digital revolution and the increasingly sophisticated tastes of consumers. Let us hope the new unit can manage its

clients' futures better than the agency has managed its own, somewhat troubled, past.

THE Advertising Association's annual think-tank at Peterhouse in Cambridge takes place this week. About 40 industry representatives, pressure group sceptics and academic eggheads will gather, as ever, to thrash out some burning advertising topics.

Previous subjects for heated debate have included tobacco advertising, the use of children in ads and Benetton's controversial marketing policy, but this year's worthy topic, guaranteed to get them going, is "The rights and responsibilities of advertising in society".

Pity it's during vacation time, or no doubt there would have been several entertainingly awkward questions tossed from the floor by shiny-faced, bright-spark undergrads.

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# 'A design mishmash and a sheer act of vandalism'

**S**urely it must all be a joke. And a rather poor one at that. Last Sunday the ailing *Observer* once again shot itself in the foot.

The intent was quite clear: having cleared me out and virtually everyone associated with my year at *The Observer* they had to bury the last vestiges of my editorship. Just months after the newspaper's radical relaunch last September, virtually everything has been ripped up, only to start all over again.

That relaunch was a team effort since I insisted on my arrival that if we were to get it right this time everyone had to be involved. The team that worked throughout last summer on the project included senior editorial and design executives (who would have to make it all work), Peter Preston, as Editor-in-Chief, and representatives from the advertising, circulation, production, marketing and PR departments.

We spent much time analysing all the available research which all pointed to the same conclusion: namely that *The Observer* was seen as second-rate, a paper for older people ('It's the paper my parents used to read'), overwhelmingly male and failing to deliver the all-round Sunday now needed to compete successfully.

Our polling and market research organisation, ICM, found that readers in March 1995 gave the paper four out of ten. It was a clear failure.

So the challenge was to find a solution and changing any newspaper is a perilous exercise with many a newspaper coming un-snuck in so doing.

We employed two specialist research companies to help to



**The last vestiges of Andrew Jaspars' radical relaunch of *The Observer* were buried last weekend. What does he think of the Sunday under its new Editor, Will Hutton?**

In addition we had *Life* colour magazine, and we would launch *Preview*, a new seven-day TV and what-on guide.

With that done we launched the new *Observer* last September. We picked up new readers and lost some old ones, as is always the case (ask *The Guardian* when it relunched in 1987). But we seemed to have achieved our objective. According to Newspaper Readership Surveys (NRS), readership increased by 13 per cent and we were at last attracting back women and younger readers.

In January ICM carried out a repeat exercise on reader perceptions of *The Observer* and this time the paper scored seven out of ten. In less than a year we had begun to change perceptions and win back respect and readers. The strategy seemed to be working.

However, that was just the start, as I told the paper's owner, the Scott Trust, at its March 5 meeting. We now had done the easy bit and all energies henceforth would

have to be single-mindedly directed at improving the content. We had to produce better journalism, better ideas, better written and better presented. There must be no more time spent on tinkering with the design and so on.

Within a few weeks I was out. Alan Rusbridger, the *Guardian* Editor, in addition also became executive editor of *The Observer*, and reporting to him was Will Hutton.

**A**fter they had axed virtually every executive I had hired, the next task was to axe the ideas, look and structure of the paper. This they achieved last Sunday when in an act of sheer vandalism they destroyed much of the work of the previous year in favour of a mishmash of design combining conservatism and schoolboy punk journalism. The elegance and beauty of the Review section was trashed, along with its central purpose of bringing together ideas from the political, cultural and literary arenas.

The new underwhelming masthead (which gives the paper the look of a war edition) contradicts every piece of advice made for introducing the previous bold and striking masthead. The new serif headline face now looks like any other newspaper and this Sunday the innovative *Preview* section is to be killed off.

The answer to *The Observer's* continuing problems do not lie in more redesigns, new typefaces etc; instead it depends entirely upon good journalism and a commitment to long-term strategies.

Andrew Jaspars edited *The Observer* for one year and one week until March this year.

'Tony triumphant. Press loves us. Business loves us. Everyone loves us. I love Tony' Mrs Blair's diary on page 25

## The Observer

ALLISON PEARSON ON SIR CLIFF

Yachtsman returns from watery grave



**Admen to sell sweets and videos in schools**

Victory is beautiful for the black with no advantage



Labour raises stakes on windfall tax in face of 'sabotage' tactics

PFI close to collapse: Clarke tells *Financial Times*

Once in a millennium offer: up to 10%

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## Police, camera, humiliation

**Television has gone too far in exposing people to ridicule, says Carol Midgley**

**H**ow many people, given the choice, would have their misfortunes broadcast on national television or radio? Who would willingly volunteer that they didn't mind a cameraman filming as they were pulled from the wreckage of their mangled car, or think it a laugh to be humiliated live before millions of sniggering viewers?

To judge by the popularity of voyeuristic 'victim entertainment' programmes, it would appear that the number is surprisingly high. But the Broadcasting Standards Council, which published its annual report yesterday, is receiving calls which suggest that public taste may be starting to turn.

Complaints to the watchdog about 'ghoul TV' programmes such as *Police, Camera, Action!* and *Blues and Twos*, an ambulance-chasing, fly-on-the-wall documentary series about real-life emergencies, have started in earnest for the first time.

Viewers long accustomed to victim-orientated entertainment, ranging from 999 and *Crimewatch* at one end of the spectrum to *Confessions* and *Beastie's About* at the other, appear to think that in some areas the boundaries of taste have been overstepped.

Two weeks ago, the BSC upheld a complaint that Carlton Television's *Blues and Twos* had crossed the boundary between information and exploitation, robbing two elderly people of their dignity. In one scene, a sick 89-year-old man who had been using his living room as a toilet for three weeks was shown being visited by an ambulance team at his home. He had died before the programme was screened and, although no surviving family could be traced, the producers were satisfied that he had consented to the screenings.

A second scene showed a woman of 82 and her 85-year-old husband after a road crash. The woman was shown weeping, but producers said she had given her permission to be filmed and argued that the programme helped to highlight the plight of the elderly left to cope alone.

Like most people, the BSC agrees that there is an important public interest to be served by television showing



Docu-drama: a 999 re-enactment of the rescue of a girl trapped in a swimming pool

positive images of police, ambulance or fire services responding to crises, but stresses that it must 'strike a balance between freedom of information and the privacy and rights of the individual'. The question must be asked: is it fair for a cameraman to film your most vulnerable moments and wait until later to ask your permission to screen them?

TV producers complain that such programmes present a distorted view of the world in which disasters are commonplace and people become desensitised as a result.

Ordinary human life, which for so many years has been the stuff of quality documentaries, may cease to be of interest to programme-makers. Worse, they say, it may cease to have impact for the viewer.

Recent public aversion to human exploitation in the name of entertainment has not been limited to television, however. Radio also has been admonished for using someone's distress to spice up its comedy.

A complaint against Scott FM in Galloway was upheld after its broadcaster rang a member of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, live on air from a mobile phone, for advice. The

broadcaster told the woman he was driving his car while speaking on the phone, then pretended that he had crashed.

Clare Reynolds of the BSC says: 'Although listeners were in on the joke, the woman genuinely thought he had crashed and was very distressed. She had not been told she was on air, so obviously hadn't given her permission.'

**C**hris Morris, the comedian and broadcaster, incurred the wrath of dozens of listeners to Radio 1 when, during a show, he telephoned a veterinary clinic and told a woman who answered that he wanted advice on de-shedding his tortoise, which he then intended to keep in his freezer. The BSC felt the staff were exploited because they reacted with obvious concern and sincerity, unaware that they were the subjects of a huge joke.

Clare Mulholland, the Independent Television Commission's director of programmes, expresses concern about privacy in programmes on real life. Blurring someone's face when they are stopped by the police for speeding does not always protect their identity, she says.

'Although it means that people are disguised from those who don't know them, their neighbours and members of their families might recognise them.'

Peter Rogers, the ITC's chief executive, points out that 'real' programmes do not always live up to expectations. During one two-hour slot following police around on a Saturday night, for instance, hardly anything remotely interesting occurred.

'Programmes involving footage of emergency services can be cheap,' he says, 'but with this programme, everyone was waiting for something to happen and it never did. All the drunks stayed at home and watched the programme.'

Yet blanket disapproval of these types of programme does not explain why they are, by and large, so successful.

Stephen Whittle, director of the Broadcasting Standards Council, says: 'There is an increasing trend towards programmes where the star is the public.'

As cameras have become smaller and technology more advanced, people often do not realise they are being filmed. And when they are asked later if they consent to the film being shown, do they really know how to say no?

## Mr Kinsley hears the call from cyberspace

**Media heavyweight turned editor for Microsoft, Michael Kinsley aims to revitalise a 'dead culture'. Tom Rhodes reports from Washington**

**M**ichael Kinsley needs little prompting to extol the virtues of his unfamiliar life in Redmond, Washington, a continent away from the American capital which made him a media star, and just ten minutes from the Microsoft Corporation where he is editor of the most talked-about new publication in America.

Peering from the bay window of his spartan flat, Mr Kinsley said: 'The sun is setting over the sailboats on Lake Washington, the Olympic Mountains are in the distance and I can see the lights of downtown Seattle. It's pretty damned idyllic.'

In the landscape of Washington State, Mr Kinsley has indeed found a metaphor for his own renaissance as editor of *Slate*, the latest electronic magazine on the Internet and a project that has placed this iconoclastic political insider at the cutting edge of a new journalistic medium.

After 19 years at *The New Republic*, both as editor and leading columnist, and most recently as the fiery foil of the Left on CNN's *Crossfire*, Mr Kinsley had been a quintessential part of the media culture in Washington, DC.

He became known variously as a darling of the Left, a charming connoisseur of political insight and an infuriatingly clever intellectual who rarely suffered fools gladly. A Harvard graduate and former Rhodes scholar with transatlantic academic and journalistic credentials — a confirmed Anglophile, he was briefly American Survey editor of *The Economist* — Mr Kinsley seemed destined to reach the very top in print or television.

To the astonishment of his friends, however, an announcement came suddenly last November that he was to move some 3,000 miles west to become an editor in cyberspace. For the chattering classes of Washington and New York, this seemed an untimely exit to the wilderness. For Mr Kinsley, it was perhaps a natural progression to the frontiers of his field.

'The sad truth is that Mike had reached a pinnacle in Washington and he found it to be hollow,' said Nicholas Lemann, Mr Kinsley's closest friend and national editor of *Atlantic Monthly*. 'I think he probably came to electronic publishing by accident, as the original idea was to get at the helm of a weekly magazine.'

Colleagues say Mr Kinsley is still plagued by a decision two years ago to reject the editorship of *New York maga-*



Michael Kinsley: bringing the Internet down to earth

**'You only get into trouble by attacking the boss's friends'**

zine. He admits to having little fondness for Manhattan and increasingly found himself lured by *Slate*, where he has set a psychological time limit of three years, but 'I might be out here for the rest of my life'.

No longer bound by the social mores of the capital, the constant telephone calls, cocktail parties and Beltway babble, he is now a component in an environment where conversation is conducted silently via e-mail, pony tails are de-

rigueur and where excitement is measured by technological advance rather than political nuance. At 45, he is 11 years older than the average Microsoft employee and older than all but one of its senior executives.

Mr Kinsley courted controversy from the start. Admitting that he was a technical neophyte, he nevertheless deemed most of the material on the Net to be 'crap' and steadfastly refused to pander to the universally acknowledged market of

'twentysomethings' who inhabit its electronic maze.

With typical candour, he was equally critical of other 'Websters' such as *Hot Wired*, *Word*, *Fired* and *Sealion*. 'There is a deadening conformity in the hipness of cyberspace culture in which we don't intend to participate. Part of our mission at *Slate* will be trying to bring cyberspace down to earth,' he wrote in the first edition.

The reception from traditional Websters has been distinctly cool. They say that Mr Kinsley has failed to grasp the true zeitgeist of the Net, where language is fluid and the attention span short.

'I'm pretty sick of all this sniping from these Web types,' said Mr Kinsley. 'No one has figured out how to do this right now. I am not sure whether it will work, but at least it's an adventure trying to find out.'

*Slate* provides weightier fare than its rivals, is shamelessly elitist and deliberately independent of its corporate sponsors. Its first edition included a lengthy treatise on the role of Jews in America, a postscript poem by Seamus Heaney and a committee discussion about the dominance of Microsoft. Mr Kinsley in fact has met Bill Gates only once, but is certain the billionaire chairman would approve of such editorial independence.

'If he is smart — and, God knows, he is — then Mr Gates will realise how important it is that this project is perceived as independent so that Microsoft can establish itself as a media company,' he said. 'My experience is that you only get into trouble by attacking the boss's friends.'

More than 2,000, largely favourable, messages so far have been received from readers and the company recorded a promising three million hits (readings of *Slate* pages) in the first week. The nagging question, of course, is whether traditional content, with which Mr Kinsley is most comfortable, suits the new medium of the Internet.

**A**nd old habits die hard. Although Seattle provides a more even political perspective, the lack of gossip, almost a part of the water supply in Washington, has clearly left Mr Kinsley a little cold. 'I miss my friends and think I am missing out to 20 per cent of the buzz. I'm not sure it's completely sensible to put this out from Redmond,' he said. 'But anyway, tell me what happened in Washington last week.'

Tickets to Ascot and Wimbledon are old hat. Jennai Cox looks at some of the new ways for companies to give their clients a good time

## Fun and games while doing business

Using the Batman film set for a business meeting may be more expensive than the boardroom, but it could be more effective. Mixing business with pleasure is an accepted part of corporate life, and while many companies still entertain clients at Henley, Wimbledon or the British Grand Prix, others are spending their money more imaginatively.

Events such as Ascot and the US Masters are still among the most popular for client entertainment, according to the Corporate Hospitality Association (CHA). But clients often receive more than one invitation to such events and the effect of the gesture can be lost.

Eddie Hoare, chairman of the CHA, was told by a colleague of a wonderful day at Wimbledon. "When I asked him who the invitation came from, he couldn't remember."

Mr Hoare says. "Corporate hospitality was always perceived as involving a spectator activity. It is still going on but you don't get the chance to interact with your guests as much. The business returns on the more unusual, often participatory activities, can be far better."

Elegant Days, Mr Hoare's own company, arranged a James Bond extravaganza recently in which clients had to make a 007 film. Having to work together meant they became familiar with each other's strengths and weaknesses. "Your propensity to phone someone to do business is far greater if you know something about them, than if you just had a nice day chatting about the weather and watching tennis," he says.

In a more cost-conscious business world companies put more thought into entertaining, and target clients more carefully. Samantha Stevens,

director of Corporate Hospitality International, whose clients include Virgin, Coca-Cola and Walt Disney, says they now look at what can be achieved with a client. "There is always an underlying aim," she says.

VIPs are still invited to high-profile events, according to Ms Stevens, but go-karting, balloon flying or power-boat racing may be more appropriate for others. Fancy That!, set up last November by Corran Michelle, organises events in which celebrity sportsmen take part. The company also hosts themed balls at extravagant out-of-town locations.

"We are trying to get back to the old-fashioned way of doing things," she says. Victorian industrialists were early corporate entertainers. Their large country mansions were built for receiving business associates. "Our events have a theatrical slant: it is what people want."



Cadbury's clients and hosts dress up as Robin Hood characters in a themed business game designed by Catalyst

Catalyst Event Management organises Fifteen Famous Minutes, in which clients star in re-enacted box-office films. Guy Baker, its managing director, says this type of activity, which ends with a screening and "Oscar" awards at a black-tie dinner, is becoming

popular. In a conference organisers' survey last month, 97 per cent of respondents said they would most like to experience themed business games. Mr Baker says that people are looking for ideas with tangible benefits. None of his includes alcohol, "otherwise

people just forget the whole occasion. We like to challenge the creative side of the brain not used in the corporate environment."

Talking Point, an event management agency, was recently asked to organise a powerboat treasure hunt off

Southampton. Paul Radcliffe, the managing director, says: "Companies don't just want to do business. They want to share an experience that develops the relationship." Established clients are invited with prospective ones in the hope that the goodwill of the occa-

sion will generate new business.

Cost-effectiveness is high on the list of priorities. Centre Stage arranges evenings at top London shows, whose singers perform at a dinner afterwards. Ray Jones, its managing director, says: "This is a very special event at less than a third of the cost of a day at Wimbledon."

The focus now on how hospitality serves business contrasts with the flamboyance of pre-recession years. Harsher economic times have cleansed the industry of many operators who promised tickets they never had. As the economy recovers, they are expected to return.

The CHA, set up in the late 1980s because of the damage disreputable companies were doing to the industry's image, advises members never to make agreements by phone, to ask for client lists, take up references, check insurance and, if necessary, check the finances of the company.

The CHA can recommend companies which provide entertainment of any sort: jazz on a Thames cruiser, driving Russian tanks, balloon rallies at historic country homes or night nights at the London Dungeon. Tony Vickers, publisher of *Corporate Hospitality News*, says: "People still don't realise the number of things you can do."

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[Speeches July 4]

Where a buyer purchased goods from a dealer in goods of that description, there was no breach of the implied condition of fitness for purpose, laid down in section 14(3) of the Sale of Goods Act 1979, where the failure of the goods to meet the intended purpose arose from an abnormality of the goods, or an abnormality of the circumstances of the use of the goods by the buyer.

The House of Lords so held in dismissing an appeal by the pursuers, James Slater and Hamish Slater, a firm, against a decision of the Second Division of the Inner House of the Court of Session in favour of the defenders, Finning Ltd.

The pursuers were claiming damages for the failure of camshafts supplied by the defenders for use in the pursuers' fishing vessel, which arose because of

excessive torsional resonance caused by some unascertained force external to the camshafts and the engine.

Section 14 of the 1979 Act provides: "(3) Where the seller sells goods in the course of a business and by implication, makes known—(a) to the buyer, expressly or by implication, the purpose for which the goods are being bought, there is an implied condition that the goods supplied under the contract are reasonably fit for that purpose, whether or not that is a purpose for which such goods are commonly supplied, except where the circumstances show that the buyer does not rely, or that it is unreasonable for him to rely, on the skill or judgment of the seller."

Mr C. M. Campbell, QC and Ms Leona J. Dorrian, QC, for the pursuers; Mr D. J. Mackay and Ms Sarah La Bude Wolfe for the defenders.

LORD KEITH said that it was argued that the condition implied by section 14(3) was properly to be related to the fishing vessel as a vessel having its own peculiar characteristics including the possession of a tendency to give

rise to excessive torsional resonance in the engine camshaft.

The pursuers had made known to the defenders that the camshafts were being bought for the specific purpose of installation in that particular vessel. The defenders therefore took the risk that the vessel might have some unknown and unusual characteristic such as would cause the camshafts to be subjected to excessive wear.

The particular purpose for which the camshafts were required was that of being fitted in the engine of a vessel which suffered from a particular abnormality of idiosyncrasy, namely a tendency to create excessive torsional resonance in camshafts.

The respondents, not being made aware of that tendency, were not in a position to exercise skill and judgment for the purpose of dealing with it. Nor were they in a position to make up their minds whether or not to accept the burden of the implied condition.

On the course of argument the analogy had been put of a new front wheel tyre being purchased for a car which was known to the buyer or the seller had a defect in the steering mechanism as a result

of which the tyre wore out after a few hundred miles of use instead of the many thousands which would normally be expected. In those circumstances it would be totally unreasonable that the seller should be liable for breach of section 14(3).

The present case was closely analogous. The boat suffered from a defect in the shape of an unusual tendency to produce excessive torsional resonance with the result that the camshafts became badly worn and unserviceable much sooner than would otherwise have been the case.

LORD STEYN said that outside the field of private sales the shift from caveat emptor to caveat venditor in relation to the implied condition of fitness for purpose had been a notable feature of the development of commercial law. But to uphold the present claim would be to allow caveat venditor to run riot.

Lord Griffiths, Lord Jauncey and Lord Slynn agreed.

Solicitors: Pattinson & Brewer for Drummond Miller, WS, Edinburgh; for Masson & Glennie, Fraserburgh; Kennedy's for Simpson & Marwick, WS, Edinburgh.

## Asylum-seekers entitled to homes

**Regina v Kensington and Chelsea Royal London Borough Council, Ex parte Hinganga**  
[Before Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Simon Brown and Lord Justice Waite]  
[Judgment June 25]

Homeless asylum-seekers who were deprived by recent regulations of all income support and housing benefit and were unable to secure accommodation and had to be housed by the local authority.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by the four applicants, Joseph Hinganga, Hinganga, Dragomir Pavlov and Lidya Araya, from the decision of Mr Justice Popplewell (The Times May 1, 1996) who had dismissed their applications for judicial review of the decisions of the Royal London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.

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Westminster City Council and the London Borough of Islington that they should not be treated as being in priority need of housing.

The appellants who had not claimed asylum at the point of entry were prevented from getting income and housing benefits. They were prohibited from obtaining employment, had no income, no capital, no family and no friends. Each of the local authorities had decided that each of the appellants' ineligibility for state benefit did not constitute a special reason within the meaning of section 59(1)(c) of the 1985 Act.

Section 59 of the 1985 Act provides: "(1) The following have a priority need for accommodation . . . (c) a person who is vulnerable as a result of old age, mental illness or handicap or physical disability or other special reason."

Mr Richard Drabble, QC and Mr Stephen Knaflitz for Hinganga, Hinganga and Pavlov; Mr David Watkinson for Araya; Mr Timothy Straker, QC and Miss Clare Roberts for Kensington and Chelsea, Hammersmith and Fulham and Islington; Mr Timothy Straker, QC and Mr Clive H. Jones for Westminster.

LORD JUSTICE NEILL said that although the judge's stated conclusion referred to the words "financial impecuniosity", the real issue between the parties was whether the phrase "other special reason" in section 59(1)(c) of the 1985 Act was limited to the mental

or physical or other personal characteristics of an applicant or whether it extended to the general circumstances including the financial condition in which an applicant found himself.

In his Lordship's judgment the correct approach to the proper construction of section 59(1)(c) was: 1 "Vulnerable" meant vulnerable in the context of a need for housing accommodation.

2 The *quidam* generic rule had no application for the purpose of construing "other special reason". That was a free standing category which, although it had to be construed in its context, was not restricted by any notion of physical or mental weakness other than that which was inherent in the word "vulnerable" itself. Although the word "reason" was in the singular his Lordship was satisfied that the housing authority would be entitled to look at a combination of circumstances.

3 The word "special" indicated that the difficulties faced by each applicant were of an unusual degree of gravity, and were such as to differentiate the applicant from other homeless persons.

4 Although his Lordship appreciated the enormous burden placed on housing authorities by the problem of homelessness the words "special reason" seemed to his Lordship to require a careful examination of the circumstances of the individual applicant.

In the light of the facts which were placed before the housing

authorities and the judge, and in the light of the arguments addressed to the court, his Lordship had come to the conclusion that it would be unhelpful and unrealistic to hold the appeal on the basis that the vulnerability of the applicants was to be attributed to financial impecuniosity viewed in isolation.

In his Lordship's judgment the words "other special reason" permitted consideration of all the personal circumstances of an applicant for accommodation. Those circumstances would include, but were not limited to their physical or mental characteristics or disabilities.

His Lordship could not agree with the judge that the preceding words in section 59(1)(c) established a genus into which "other special reason" must be fitted as a species.

The housing authorities were in error in construing the words "other special reason" in section 59(1)(c) of the 1985 Act in such a way as to exclude those applicants from the category of persons who were in priority need.

Lord Justice Simon Brown gave a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Waite agreed with both.

Solicitors: Clure & Co, Fulham; Mr John Gallagher; Mr Alan Phillips; Kensington and Chelsea; Mr Cornelius Mahoney; Hammersmith and Fulham; Mr Colin Wilson, Westminster; Ms Marie Rosenthal, Islington.

## Taxing costs withdrawn from restraint

**In re L (Restraint order: Legal costs)**  
[Before Mr Justice Latham]  
[Judgment June 10]

A defendant could be permitted to draw sums from funds subject to a restraint order under the Drug Trafficking Act 1994 to pay for legal representation. Those costs would be taxed in the same way as if taxation were taking place inter partes on an indemnity basis.

Mr Justice Latham so stated in a chambers judgment in the Queen's Bench Division, released with his Lordship's permission, in which L applied for variation of a restraint order made pursuant to section 28(1) of the 1994 Act to permit him to pay for his representation at trial.

Mr Timothy Sewell for L; Mr Andrew Mitchell for the Commissioners of Customs and Excise; Mr David Hanley, solicitor, for the Law Society.

MR JUSTICE LATHAM said that L, at present legally aided, wished to use his own funds, subject to a restraint order, to have the representation of his choice. He proposed that the prosecution were to be entitled to require L to submit the solicitor's bill supporting the claim for payment for taxation of disputed amounts pursuant to Order 62, rule 15 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, save that the presumptions in rule 15(2) were not to apply.

In the event that any such sums were disallowed on taxation, they were to be repaid to the fund subject to restraint, so as to be capable of forming part of the funds subject to confiscation. The prosecution did not dispute the right to apply for variation of the order as it stood, allowing £200 for legal expenses, and were content in general terms with the mechanism proposed.

But they did not agree that the proposed basis for resolving any disputes as to what sums the defendant was entitled to was appropriate and argued that the costs should be taxed on a standard basis as if on a party and party taxation; they also objected to the requirement to pay the whole of the amount claimed pending taxation, arguing that they should only be required to allow release of 65 per cent. It was necessary to identify the nature of the different bases of taxation.

L argued that the basis should be a solicitor and own client taxation pursuant to Order 62, rule 15(1) and (2), although the presumptions in rule 15(2) should not apply. The basis of taxation proposed was, therefore, that it should be the same as if taxation was taking place inter partes on an indemnity basis, to which Order 62, rule 12(2) applied. The prosecution relied on Order 62, rule 12(1) relating to taxation on the standard basis.

It was clear that whichever basis was applied, the principle was one of reasonableness. In practice, however, the operation of the different burdens of proof had produced significant differences in the amounts allowed on taxation.

As the basic principle of reasonableness must be the same for both sides, the question in view of the way the proposed variation was structured, was whether his Lordship should require the defendant's solicitors to justify their costs, or whether the prosecution was to be required to establish the costs to be unreasonable.

The relevant statutory provisions were sections 26 and 31 of the Drug Trafficking Act 1994. Those gave the court a discretion recognised by the provisions of Order 115, rule 4 to make such exceptions as were considered appropriate in the circumstances.

The statute identified a clear public interest in ensuring that the property of such a person as L should be secured so far as was reasonable, a word which did not appear in either the Act or Order 115 but which necessarily be implied, to be available to meet any confiscation order.

On the other hand, the money remained *prima facie* that of the

defendant. He had not been convicted of any offence. The application for the exception was in order to enable him to defend himself against charges of which he asserted that he was not guilty. The question was how to balance those competing interests.

It was to some extent true that a restraint order was akin to a Mareva injunction, an asset-freezing order, but the fact that the public had an interest in the efficacy of the restraint order meant that the comparison had to be approached with some caution.

None the less Mr Justice Pervis had made observations in a *Mareva* case in *Carla Cristal SA v Emran Al El-Borno* (The Times May 6, 1994) which were of some relevance.

They required some dilution, but nevertheless they highlighted the important point that the defendant should be entitled to defend himself as best he could; and in doing so, any money so expended, provided that it was kept within reasonable limits, was not, in his Lordship's view, expenditure which constituted the mischief which the provisions of the Act were intended to prevent.

The question in the present case had been in issue in *In re P* (The Times April 11, 1990). However, there was no analysis in the judgments of the Court of Appeal of the effect of the statutory objective now set out in section 31(2) of the 1994 Act.

The prosecution argued that it was open to his Lordship to conclude that on a proper analysis of the statutory objective in the context of such cases a proper basis of taxation was the standard basis. That was the most logical approach, because the premise should be that any person seeking

an exemption from the restraint order should be required to establish that such an exemption would be reasonable in all the circumstances.

It was pointed out that that was the way the court approached the issue of payments for living expenses; and it was said that in a way in which the burden of proof was expressed for the purposes of taxation on a standard basis in Order 62, rule 15(1) properly reflected the approach the court should adopt.

While his Lordship saw the force of that argument, it seemed to give inadequate expression to the defendant's right to use the funds which were *prima facie* his for the purposes of defending himself. In instructing his solicitor he should be entitled, subject to proper safeguards against extravagance, to instruct his solicitor to be remunerated on a solicitor and own client basis, and not as constrained by a process of taxation based upon the protection of a losing litigation.

In his Lordship's judgment, the proposal that the costs should be based on an indemnity basis, but without the presumptions in Order 62, rule 15(2) balanced the two competing interests most satisfactorily.

It was unsatisfactory for there to be payment out of a protected fund sums which might thereafter have to be repaid. It followed that the most satisfactory solution was to provide for the retention of such sums as would obviate, so far as was fair to both interests, the risk of such happening. The suggested retention of 25 per cent was entirely appropriate in the circumstances.

Solicitors: Saunders & Co for Stoke Partnership, Leytonstone; Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

## Destination of drugs irrelevant

**Regina v Wagenaar, Regina v Pronk**  
[Before Lord Justice Staughton, Lord Justice Saville and Sir Ralph Gibson]  
[Judgment June 4]

It was not appropriate in applying the so-called "cooking test" for the care component of disability living allowance to apply the test only to those applicants who knew how to cook a meal. It had to be assumed that applicants who did not know how to cook were willing to learn.

The Court of Appeal dismissed a renewed ex parte application by Muriel Armstrong for leave to move for judicial review of a decision of the Chief Adjudication Officer on January 23, 1995, leave having been refused by Mr Justice Ognall on February 2, 1996.

Section 72 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 provided: "(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, a person shall be entitled to the care component of a disability living allowance for any period throughout which (a) he is so severely disabled physically or mentally that . . . (b) he cannot

prepare a cooked main meal for himself if he has the ingredients."

She had complained that the original refusal was indirectly discriminatory on the ground of sex. Even assuming that there was an arguable case that the relevant provisions were incompatible with European law unless capable of objective justification, the applicant had been able to show that she had suffered any loss or damage.

She had no other interest in the outcome and the secretary of state should be left to take whatever steps he thought appropriate without having to litigate the issue at the applicant's suit.

MR JUSTICE MOSES said that the drugs found were intended for Holland. Other people, apparently at the centre of the organisation in which the appellants were involved, had received sentences of four or five years in Holland.

It was argued that the appellants' sentences should be substantially reduced.

As a matter of principle, the fact that drugs were destined for a country where maximum sentences which could be imposed were significantly lower than in this country was irrelevant.

Inevitably, there being different domestic systems coping with the problem of international drug trafficking, there would be different sentences according to which jurisdiction defendants found themselves within.

While transactions in shares and other securities could fall within the scope of VAT, especially where such transactions were effected as part of a commercial share dealing activity or in order to secure a direct or indirect involvement in the management of the companies in which the holdings had been acquired, *Polysar* (paragraph 14) the applicant was forbidden to engage in precisely such activities.

Consequently, and irrespective whether the activities in question were similar to those of an investment trust or pension fund, a trust such as the present was to be regarded as confining its activities to managing an investment portfolio in the same way as a private investor.

Contrary to the applicant's argument, neither the scale of a share sale, nor the employment, in connection with such a sale, of consultancy undertakings could constitute criteria for distinguishing between the activities of a private investor, which fell outside the scope of the directive, and those of an investor whose transactions constituted an economic activity.

The principle of fiscal neutrality attributed to it by the applicant while it required all economic activities to be treated in the same way, it also assumed that the activity could be classified as an economic activity, which was not the present case.

On those and other grounds, the Fifth Chamber of the European Court of Justice ruled: "The concept of economic activity 4(2) of the Sixth Directive, was to be interpreted as not including an activity, such as that in issue in the case, consisting in the purchase and sale of shares and other securities by a trustee in the course of the management of the assets of a charitable trust."

The court had so held with regard to financial holdings acquired by holding companies in other undertakings; see *Polysar* (paragraph 13) and Case C-33/90 *Sofina* (paragraph 13) and Case C-33/90 *Sofina* (paragraph 13).

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## 'Cooking test' is not confined to those who can cook

**Regina v Secretary of State for Social Security and Another, Ex parte Armstrong**  
[Before Lord Justice Staughton, Lord Justice Saville and Sir Ralph Gibson]  
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*Journal of Management Studies*, 19(1), 67-80.

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# Record foreign investment boosts UK jobs

By Philip Bassett  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

INVESTMENT in Britain by foreign companies rose to a record level last year, bringing a substantial increase in the number of new jobs. Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, yesterday announced a 10 per cent increase in inward investment projects in 1995-96, combined with a 30 per cent rise in the number of new jobs to 48,250.

Mr Lang said: "The world is flocking to locate in Britain because our policies of setting enterprise free have made us the enterprise centre of

Europe. We have low taxes, low burdens and high performance."

His comments coincided with the announcement of the latest UK inward investment. Multinational Spain's largest insurance claims handler, is setting up headquarters in London's Docklands, employing initially 100.

Ministers said that in a decade over £100 billion had gone into the UK economy through inward investment. The annual report of the Government's Invest in Britain Bureau showed that the inward investment stock in the UK stands at £159 billion — 40 per cent of all the inward

investment into the EU. Andrew Fraser, IBB chief executive, said the UK is now number one for US and Japanese inward investment into the EU, and the most popular destination for German inward investment worldwide since 1990.

However, Mr Lang said: "I have no doubt at all that an incoming government bent on the kind of policies that are beginning to emerge from the Labour Party, such as signing up to the European social chapter, would severely undermine the confidence of inward investors."

But Mr Lang was largely unable to respond to a speech made last week by Jürgen Gehrels, chief executive of Siemens, which is investing £1 billion in a new plant in Britain, when he told business leaders that the UK's opt-out from the social chapter "had no impact whatsoever" in the company's investment decision, and that the argument over the social chapter by the Government was a "red herring."

Mr Lang said that a total of 58 German companies coming to Britain showed they wished to be free of their own country's labour market inflexibilities. He denied, too, that Conservative divisions over Europe were now deterring inward investors, insisting that the Government had "no evidence" of any such moves.

But Labour maintained that Tory splits over Europe were the "real threat" to inward investment. Margaret Beckett, Shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, said: "It does no service to Britain's national interest for this Government to pretend, quite untruthfully, that inward investment will be threatened and unwelcome under a Labour government."

She said: "The worst threats to inward investment are the risk to our EU membership and concerns about policy on education and training, since it is access to skilled labour and the EU that attracts inward investors."

## Menzies shares buoyant

SHARES in John Menzies, the newsagent and wholesaler, rose sharply yesterday after better than expected results and optimism about prospects for this year.

Pre-tax profit in the year to May 4 fell £2.2 million to £35.9 million, but City expectations were in the £33 million to £35 million range. The shares closed up 19p at 574p.

Ronald Noel-Paton, the group managing director, blamed restructuring costs in its news wholesaling operation and a fall in profit at the Early Learning Centres for the decline. But he said: "The second half was one of recovery and that is continuing into the new financial year."

Most restructuring costs are through, he said, and trading at the Early Learning Centres is looking up. A final dividend of 9p means the full-year payout rises 4.5 per cent to 13.8p.

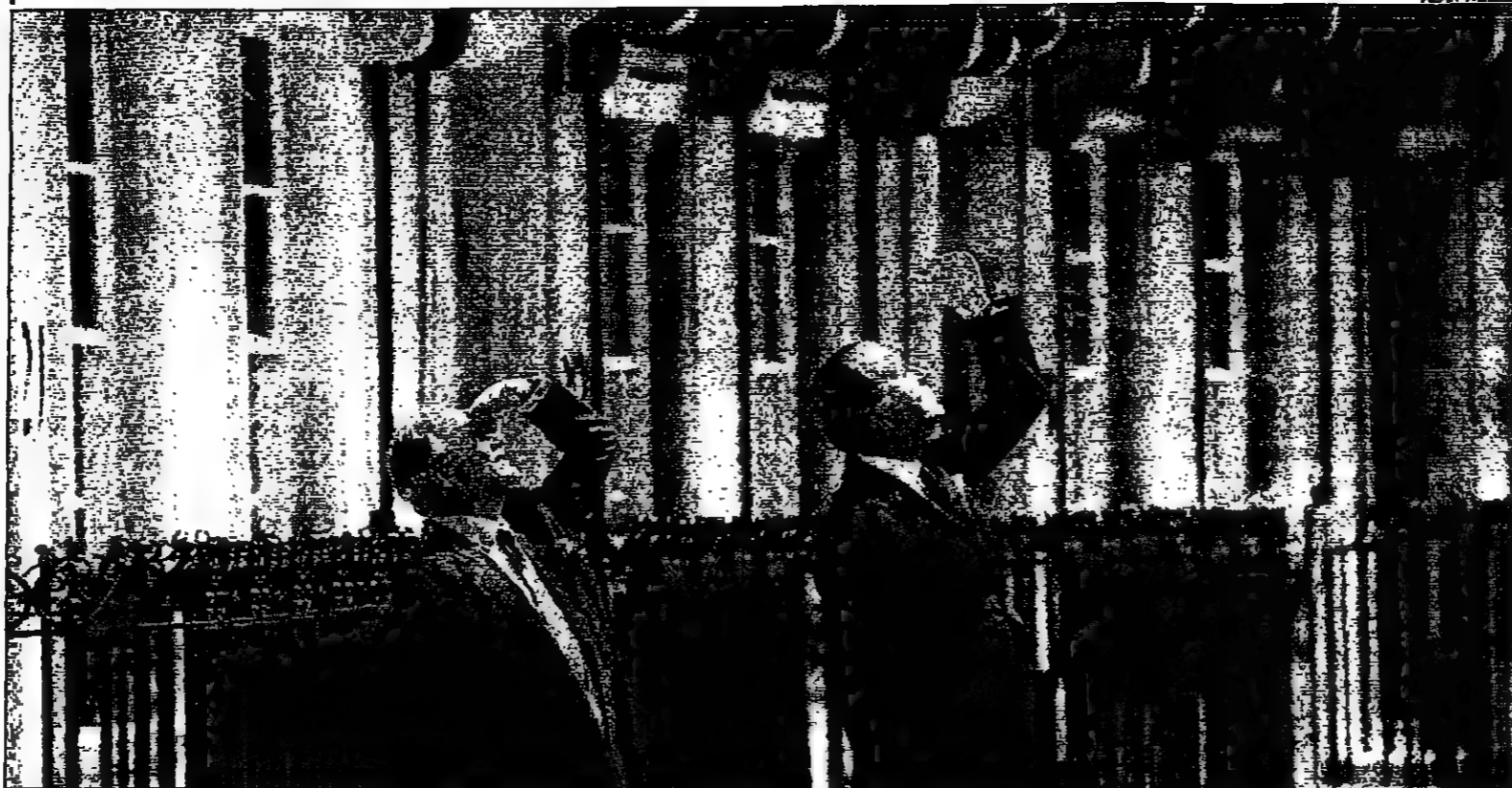
The company also announced a series of changes to its board. John Menzies, the chairman, is to retire at the annual general meeting in 1997. He will become life president, while Gavin Reed will succeed him as non-executive chairman. Brian Lascelles is to retire at the same time as deputy chairman and Mr Noel-Paton will, on health grounds, cease to be managing director and will take on the deputy chairmanship.

David Mackay, current wholesale managing director, will become group managing director and chief executive. He will be replaced at the wholesale division by Iain Callaghan. *Tempus, page 28*

## Energy popular

MORE than 370,000 private investors have registered to buy shares in British Energy, the company that owns the UK's eight newest nuclear reactors. This suggests that the Government will increase the number of shares that will be allocated to the public beyond its target of 30 per cent of the offer. The registrations so far received account for 270 million shares while 30 per cent of the equity equals 183 million shares.

The first payment for the shares is set at 100p for private investors and 105p for institutions. The company is expected to be valued at about £1.4 billion when trading in the shares begins on Monday.



John D Wood, the estate agent whose joint chairman are Ian Homersham, left, and George Pope, yesterday reported strong demand for property in central London and an upturn in interest in country properties. In the year to April 30, the company increased pre-tax profits 45 per cent to £729,000

# Workplace grievances 'bring threat to competitive Britain'

By Philip Bassett, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

RISE in workplace grievances at work are threatening Britain's economic competitiveness, the UK's personnel managers say today — and they call for a new government inquiry into employee relations in Britain.

With strikes in the Royal Mail, on the London Underground, and one threatened by British Airways pilots, personnel managers call for companies to rebuild trust with their workforces.

Gillian Shepherd, the Education and Employment Secretary, will today set out the Government's labour market priorities at an employment

conference organised by the Institute of Personnel and Development, with David Blunkett, the Shadow Secretary, putting forward Labour's new job proposals.

Before the conference, the IPD puts forward a new pre-election statement on employment relations, which urges the establishment of a new government inquiry, of the standing of the Donovan Commission in the 1960s.

The IPD statement, worked out after close consultation with business, says that in the wake of the recession of the early 1990s there is a "rising

sense of grievance amongst people at work" which "poses a threat to our competitive performance."

While personnel managers accept that, despite the present small rash of strikes, industrial action generally is at its lowest levels since records began, they point to sharp increases in cases going to industrial tribunals and to the conciliation service Acas.

Job insecurity has "damaged people's commitment", the IPD says, and both employers and trade unions are failing to deliver the sense of involvement people want at

work. Geoff Armstrong, IPD director, will tell today's conference: "Ruthless job-cutting — even when it has been necessary — has left people feeling insecure. Too many employers have failed to recognise that a cowed, compliant workforce will not deliver competitive success."

"The prospect of the axe if hardly going to encourage someone to innovate or make that extra effort. If managers want people who will stick their necks out, rather than keep their heads down, they will have to rebuild the trust that has been lost."

But the IPD's statement also says that most managers still remain to be persuaded that trade unions have a positive contribution to make to their businesses.

The IPD's statement comes as the TUC today launches a legal challenge against employers' rights to dismiss unfairly workers with two years' service — a limit the IPD would like to see reduced to 12 months. The TUC is co-ordinating 500 separate claims to industrial tribunals in a move that the unions say could benefit almost 7 million employees.

## Water watchdog warns on bills

By Christine Buckley

WATER customers can expect higher bills if new European directives are pushed through, the water consumers' watchdog said yesterday.

Jim Gardner, chairman of the Office of Water Services' customer council, said: "There are three new water directives lurking in Europe which have enough financial clout to make substantial impacts on

customer bills inevitable." He said that the revised drinking water directive alone could put an extra £5 on household bills.

Launching the Ofwat customer council report, Mr Gardner called for greater customer involvement in Brussels before the directives are completed. He said: "Other European countries have virtually no general customer contacts fed in to the Brussels machine at all." He added that Ofwat's customer division is working to bolster its presence in Europe.

Mr Gardner urged full consultation on the costings of the directives, saying that the resulting charges must be "implemented at a pace with which all customers, business and household, particularly those on low incomes, can cope."

The draft directive on drinking water could mean that water companies have to replace lead pipes over 15 years at an estimated cost of £2 billion. Brussels is also looking at the ecological standards of water and bathing water quality.

## Vodafone to buy up Talkland

By Eric Reguly

VODAFONE, the largest mobile phone company, yesterday struck an agreement with Compagnie Générale des Eaux to take full control of Talkland, a service provider with about 400,000 customers.

The French utility is to sell its two-thirds stake in Talkland to Vodafone, which has owned the other third since 1994, for £33.6 million. Vodafone has also agreed to repay Générale's £29 million loan to Talkland.

Talkland works as an intermediary between the network and the subscriber by selling services for all the competing networks and providing the billing systems. The company has 50 retail outlets, an independent dealer network, and a direct corporate salesforce.

Vodafone said it would take measures to improve Talkland's profitability. It was loss-making in the early 1990s, but had a pre-tax profit of £94,000 last year.

## Bid ripples slow Lloyds Chemists

By Our City Staff

LOYDS CHEMISTS yesterday gave warnings to shareholders that profits in the second half of the year had been affected adversely by the uncertainty caused by rival takeover bids for the company.



Lloyd: profit warning

Lloyds, whose chairman is Allen Lloyd, is the target of a £623 million bid by UniChem and a £650 million offer by Gehe, of Germany. Both bids have been referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and a report is scheduled to be published on July 22.

On the stock market yesterday Lloyds shares fell 8p to 460p. The company said: "Profitability in the second half of the year has been adversely affected by the uncertainty surrounding the possible bid outcomes, together with the costs associated with the bids and the MMC referral."

"As a result, the board expects that the level of profit achieved in the six months ended June 30 will be lower than that achieved in the first half, although not by a significant amount," Lloyds said. It still believed no competition or public interest issues would be raised if it were bought by either predator.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## Guardian Insurance buys L&G division

GUARDIAN INSURANCE has acquired the commercial general insurance business of Legal & General for £48 million. The deal gives Guardian, a subsidiary of Guardian Royal Exchange, all the staff, property leases and fixed assets of the business. Guardian is meeting the cost from existing resources. In the year to December 31, 1995, the business had gross written premiums of £79 million and a gross underwriting result before investment income and non-recurring items of £16 million.

Guardian Insurance said the transaction "nearly doubles our market share in the commercial property sector". Shares in GRE fell 5p to 239p amid City concerns that commercial business is still on a downward cycle and rates are showing no signs of picking up. The transaction will leave L&G with an exceptional profit of £27 million. *Tempus, page 28*

## Gibbs Mew to expand

GIBBS MEW, the pub group based in Salisbury, aims to open 50 new tenanted houses this year. Tom Hedderson, chairman, said that the company was looking to raise capital expenditure from £3 million last year to £18 per cent to £5.2 Mew yesterday reported pre-tax profits up 18 per cent to £5.2 million in the year to March 31. Earnings of 29.12p a share compared with 28.4p last time. A final dividend of 6p, due on October 1, lifts the total to 10p from 9.5p.

## Recovery at Bepak

BESPAK, the medical devices group that is emerging from a lengthy period of restructuring, achieved a £16.9 million pre-tax profit for the year to May 3, against £14 million losses last time. Group sales were up 14 per cent at £76.2 million. Demand for Accuhaler, Glaxo's new dry-powder inhaler for which Bepak is sole manufacturer, added £5 million to sales of the pharmaceutical division, which grew 35 per cent to £29.9 million. A 6.8p final dividend makes 11p (10.2p).

## Final MGM bids due

LAZARDS, the investment firm hired by the French Government to sell MGM/UA, the Hollywood studio, has given bidders until tomorrow to submit "final modifications" to their offers. At least three bids in the \$1.2 billion to \$1.5 billion range are said to be in the running. They include offers from PolyGram, the Anglo-Dutch music and entertainment group, and The News Corporation, parent company of The Times.

## Birse in the black

BIRSE, the construction company, yesterday announced its first pre-tax profits for five years. In the six months to the end of April the company earned £1.1 million before tax, against losses of £7 million previously. Earnings were 0.6p a share, compared with losses of 3.6p. There is again no dividend. Construction order books at the end of June were slightly ahead of last year, while asset disposals should further aid the debt reduction.

## Rexmore pegs dividend

REXMORE, the supplier of upholstery and furnishing fabrics, is holding the total dividend at 3.4p a share, with an unchanged final of 2.1p, after suffering a decline in pre-tax profits to £1.64 million from £1.91 million in the year to March 30. Earnings fell to 7.6p a share from 8.9p. Results were affected by a £300,000 loss on the sale of Brockley Timber. Turnover of £33.1 million compared with £32.6 million previously.

## Universal Salvage rises

UNIVERSAL SALVAGE, the UK's largest contract motor salvage company, increased the number of vehicles handled in the second half of the financial year by 20 per cent. The company now wants to expand in the South of England. In the year to April 30 it increased pre-tax profits to £3.96 million from £3.4 million. Earnings were 8.56p a share, compared with 8.63p. A final dividend of 3.55p a share makes a total of 5.07p, in line with September's flotation prospects.

## TOURIST RATES

Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank		
Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell		
Australia \$ ...	2.05	1.88	Netherlands Gld	0.605	0.548
Belgium Fr ...	17.88	16.18	New Zealand \$	2.800	2.573
Canada Cdn ...	51.75	47.45	Norway Kr ...	2.41	2.19
Denmark Dkr ...	2.238	2.075	Portugal Esc ...	254.50	236.00
France Ffr ...	6.55	6.078	S Africa Rd ...	7.55	6.55
Germany Dm ...	9.70	8.90	Spain Ptas ...	205.50	183.50
Italy Lit ...	7.12	6.50	Sweden Kr ...	11.03	10.28
Japan Yen ...	8.43	7.78	Switzerland Fr	2.06	1.81
Portugal Esc ...	2.82	2.31	Turkey Lira	1326.16	1246.16
Spain Ptas ...	387	352	USA \$	1.561	1.381
Sweden Kr ...	12.57	11.67			
Switzerland Sfr	1.00	0.95			
Taiwan Nt\$ ...	6.32	5.77			
UK £ ...	8993	8238			
USA \$ ...	188.00	170.00			

Rates for small denomination bank notes supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Rates for small denomination bank notes supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

## What follows Mandela? South Africa in 1999

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7,500,000	75,000,000	Ordinary Shares of US\$0.10 each	4,200,000
77,497	49,098	Redeemable preference shares of £1 each	14,374
7	2	Preference Shares of £1 each	3
28,000,000	28,000,000	"C" Shares of US\$1 each	28,000,000

Copies of the prospectus published on 9 July 1996 can be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturday and public holidays excepted) for a period of 2 business days from the date of this notice up to and including 11 July 1996 from the Company Announcements Office, London Stock Exchange Tower, Capel Court entrance, off Bartholomew Lane, London (for collection only) and for a period of 14 days from the date hereof up to and including 23 July 1996 from:

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London EC3N 4HA

10 July 1996

## Float to value Thistle at £1bn

By Alasdair Murray

THISTLE HOTELS, the country's second-largest hotel chain, is heading for a stock market flotation in October that will value the company at up to £1 billion.

Thistle, which used to be known as Mount Charlotte Investments, is 70 per cent owned by Brierley Investments, which is quoted in New Zealand. The remaining 30 per cent is owned by the Singaporean Government, which paid £225 million for the stake in 1991.

The company owns 100 hotels under the Mount Charlotte and Thistle brands. It has invested heavily in recent years, upgrading Mount Charlotte hotels to the four-star Thistle brand which now comprises more than half the group. Thistle is

estimated to have an asset value of £2 billion, and last year increased profits by 50 per cent to £37 million.

Mount Charlotte lost its stock market quote in 1990 when Brierley paid £645 million for the company. Brierley stepped in when Mount Charlotte ran into financial trouble after the £644 million acquisition of the Thistle chain from Scottish & Newcastle the previous year.

Brierley, which is controlled by Sir Ron Brierley, owns a series of pubs and electrical chains in Australia and New Zealand. The company is keen to recoup its investment in Thistle, now that the hotel sector has recovered in the UK. Kwok Leng Beng, the Singaporean busi-

nessman behind Millennium and Copthorne, the recently floated hotel chain, also holds a 20 per cent stake in Brierley.

Thistle has a heavy presence in London with 11 hotels and is also the largest hotel group in Scotland with 25 hotels.

Analysts believe that Thistle could command up to 113p a share at flotation, compared with the 73p a share Brierley originally paid for the group.

Thistle makes up about a third of Brierley's total assets, and has held back the investment group's performance in past years due to the heavy investment needed to improve the hotel chain's performance.

□ Dangers of the big game □ BR not so late after all □ Investors tire of laboratory promises

## Clarke rings wrong numbers

□ KENNETH CLARKE yesterday accused the Bank of England of always being wrong in its inflation forecasts and always too pessimistic. The Chancellor should surely have looked wider and added that the Treasury under his leadership has always been wrong on public borrowing and always too optimistic.

In the Budget of November 1994, borrowing for this year was forecast at £13 billion. By the summer forecast of June 1995, that figure had been raised to £16 billion. By last November, that was up to £22.5 billion and yesterday's Summer Forecast raised the projection again to £27 billion. So in 18 months, the Treasury's judgment of borrowing has more than doubled.

Mr Clarke's response is to hide behind a blokey distrust of statistics and forecasting. It's the Treasury's job to be right, not to blame, he has said. Yesterday, he sought refuge in semantics. In the Summer Forecast, the Treasury states its objective for fiscal policy as being to bring the PSBR back towards balance over the medium term.

Absolutely, said a triumphant Chancellor. This is the form of words he used in 1993, 1995 and again in 1996. It was only in 1994 that he modified his language to bringing the PSBR back to balance over the medium term.

So 1994 was the aberration. No hint of allowing fiscal targets slip.

But that is not half the story. In 1998, John Major said that the aim was to achieve a zero PSBR. In November 1991, Norman Lamont said that his objective was to balance the PSBR over the cycle.

By 1992, the aim was to see the budget move towards balance over the cycle. Apparently, the aim on fiscal policy shifts ever so subtly according to whether the Government is doing well or badly on the borrowing front. In other words, it is operating a cyclical fiscal target.

Asked a serious question about whether, in view of the serious deviation of the public finances from plan, the Government should consider raising taxes rather than cutting them, Mr Clarke moved on from semantics to the obvious tactic of attacking the opposition. Attacking Labour as the tax-and-spend party will no doubt once again be a key weapon during the election campaign. But yesterday the Chancellor treated his own record on borrowing as a big game.

The most galling aspect for Gordon Brown's people is that Mr Clarke will probably get away with such double standards.

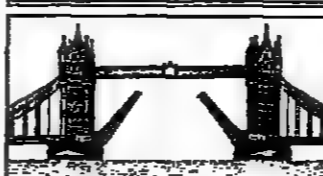
Nobody in the City is that worried whether the PSBR gets to balance in 1999, 2000 or later. As long as there is some progress in a downward direction, that is enough to placate the money men. And the magic Maastricht goal of getting borrowing down to 3 per cent of gross domestic product is an irrelevance to Britain as long as it is opted out of the single currency. If Labour wants to join, that is its problem.

### Railway siding

□ BRITISH RAIL's decision not to bid for train franchises will have been greeted with snuff satisfaction by officials at the Department of Transport.

Relations between BR and the Government during privatisation have been, at best, cool. John Welsby, the BR chairman, has mostly maintained a dignified

### PENNINGTON



public silence over the policy, while his predecessor, Sir Bob Reid, infuriated ministers and senior officials with his expressions of dissent. Under Sir Bob's leadership, BR made little secret of its support for a House of Lords rebellion during the passage of the Railways Act over BR's right to bid for franchises. The revolt forced John MacGregor, the then Transport Secretary, into an embarrassing climbdown. This raised the possibility of BR continuing to run the very services that it had been instructed to sell off. The Tory uprising almost scuppered privatisation and caused the Government a political humiliation that has not been forgotten. Almost three years on and the

process of breaking up BR is three quarters completed. The sale of franchises continues apace and by the next election, the Government hopes that BR will be little more than a brass-plate legal necessity with its trading operations transferred to the private sector. It may turn out that way but the game is not up yet and with the political clock ticking remorselessly, time is not on the Government's side.

Only seven of the 25 franchises have been sold so far and there are complex problems to be sorted out before some of the rest can be flagged out of the public sector. InterCity West Coast, the biggest unsold franchise, requires a huge investment programme that will deter all but the bravest bidders. The sales of the ScotRail, North East, North West and Central franchises are all complicated by hostile Labour-controlled local passenger transport executives. By this time next year, BR could still find itself one of half a dozen or so major train operators without bidding for a single franchise. That would give a Labour government a substantial base

on which to start the work of recreating a public sector railway. It is still too early to write the BR obituary.

### Biotech scapegoat

□ THE weakness in biotechnology shares over the last fortnight has found a scapegoat. The troubled flotation of Cambrio, which needs to raise £10 million to buy the drugs company that will become its main business, is being blamed. Cambrio has enough problems without this. Yesterday, it looked increasingly likely that the marketing period of the firm's shares would have to be extended for a second time.

That such dramatic falls in the prices of British Biotech, Chiroscience and the rest could be pinned on little Cambrio underlines the immaturity of the biotech market. If it gets to the market, Cambrio will be valued at only £20 million — less than a quarter of the amount that British Biotech shares lost just yesterday. Cambrio isn't even a biotech company but a drugs company. For the past few

months, it has seemed that anyone with a lab coat has been able to float a £50 million biotech company. No, we haven't got a cure for cancer/arthritis/itchy feet but if you give us £20 million we're prepared to work on one. Investors have tired, at least temporarily, of trying to choose between competing blue sky promises.

Strangely, the worst hit stocks have been the better established companies. One explanation was a report in the New England Journal of Medicine about unsuccessful drug trials that finished three years ago.

Biotech companies are here to stay but as the "news flow" slows over the summer, they are likely to remain in the doldrums. Bad news for all the eager scientists sitting in their merchant banks' waiting room.

### Clarity called for

□ AS thousands of pages of detailed and prescriptive regulations arising from the Pensions Act are laid before Parliament there are concerns in all quarters that the laudable aims of providing a better framework to protect pension rights have been buried by the draftsman. It has taken long enough, some would say too long, for new pensions legislation to reach this stage for the changes to be confused now.

### Southern Electric shake-up

Southern Electric yesterday moved to stem City uncertainty over its management with a boardroom shake-up.

Geoffrey Wilson, chairman, will retire at the end of the month, to be replaced by Ken Coates, currently a non-executive director.

Henry Casley, chief executive, will become a non-executive deputy chairman and is succeeded by Jim Forbes, the present managing director of electricity. Jim Hart, managing director of business development is appointed to Mr Forbes's position.

### Triplex strong

Triplex Lloyd, the manufacturer of components to the automotive and power industries, enjoyed a strong rise in operating profits to £15.2 million from £10.9 million in the year to March 31.

At the pre-tax level they were £9.5 million after an exceptional charge of £3.8 million against a disposal, compared with £8.3 million previously. Earnings were 10.4p a share (9.8p). The total dividend is maintained at 7p a share, with an unchanged 4.5p final. The shares rose 9p to 170p.

### Farepak rises

Farepak, the mail order specialist, lifted pre-tax profits by 11 per cent to £7.9 million in the year to April 30, helped by a £1.1 million contribution from the newly acquired Kleeneze. Operating profits in its food processing division dropped 62 per cent to £157,000 after the BSE scare hit beef volumes. Profits in the mail order division also fell slightly. A final dividend of 6.35p lifts the total to 8.8p from 7.7p. Earnings per share rose 2.12p to 22.64p.

### P&P higher

Profits at P&P, the computer sales and staff contractor, rose to £6.5 million before tax from £6.2 million in the half-year to May 31. Earnings rose to 5.8p a share from 5.3p. The interim dividend is lifted to 1.25p a share from 1.15p. The shares fell 3p to 156p.

## Allied shares priced below expected levels

BY PAUL DURMAN

ALLIED CARPETS, the leading carpet retailer, has recognised investors' weakening appetite for new issues by pricing its shares below previously expected levels.

Shares are being offered at between 205p and 235p, which will value the company at between £181.9 million and £204.1 million. Allied Carpets was expected to command a market value of at least £200 million, with up to £250 million seen as a possibility.

A company spokesman said: "We've deliberately val-

ued it quite conservatively. We want this issue to be a success. We want people to look at it and say it represents good value. We want it to get away well."

Retail analysts agreed that the pricing looked attractive. Allied Carpets will be priced at between 18 and 20.2 times its pro forma historic earnings for the year just ended. This compares with an historic price-earnings multiple of 25 for Carpetright, the company's similarly sized quoted competitor. After expenses, Al-

lied Carpets will receive £27.7 million from the intermediaries offer of 13.6 million shares.

Another £8.1 million shares, currently owned by Asda, the supermarket group, and Civen, the venture capital group, will be placed with institutional investors. Asda is intending to sell all of its 41.3 per cent stake, while Civen will retain only a small part of its 40 per cent holding.

The prospectus shows that Allied Carpets' three executive directors are intending to sell 579,000 shares out of a total holding of 3.86 million.

Ray Nethercott, managing director, plans to sell about £80,000 of shares. This will still leave him with a holding worth nearly £3.3 million.

Applications for shares have to be made by next Wednesday. Share dealings will begin the following Tuesday.

Allied Carpets recently reported pre-tax profits of £14.6 million, a 19 per cent increase, for the year ending June 29. Its sales rose 15 per cent to £230.1 million.

The company claims a 12 per cent share of the UK carpet market.

Many of its rivals are small independents, some of whom are expected to disappear as the market consolidates. Only last week Best for Carpets, which has 29 stores between Birmingham and Newcastle, called in Coopers & Lybrand as a receiver.

About 500 of Allied Carpets' 1,900 employees own shares in the company with a combined value of more than £35 million.

The company emerged five years ago as a management buyout from the collapse of Lowndes Queensway. Backing from Civen enabled the company, originally called Carpetland Carpet Centres, to acquire the Allied Maples group from Asda in December 1993.

## Eurocamp warns of bookings slump

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

FURTHER evidence that tour operators are facing a tough summer of trading came yesterday when Eurocamp, the specialist travel company, gave warning that its bookings had slumped 25 per cent and profits would fall short of forecasts.

Richard Atkinson, chief executive, said that France had suffered from the strength of the franc against

sterling and some rival sites and villa operators had seen bookings halved this year. Britons had chosen to stay at home to watch Euro 96 and wait to see whether the summer would be as good as last year.

The shares fell 7p to 210p after Eurocamp reported a £5.2 million pre-tax loss for the six months to April 30, against a £6.3 million loss last time. The loss was reduced by a contribution from Superbreak, the recently acquired hotel and theatre breaks company.

Eurocamp's loss per share is 10.5p, a reduction from the loss of 16.3p per share for the comparable period in 1995. The dividend is held at 3.75p.

Eurocamp is to buy Camping in Comfort, a Dutch company, for around £5 million, funded via the issue of 1.95 million shares. The full price of the takeover will be dictated by the Dutch company's final profits.



Atkinson: a warning



Trolley good: John von Spreckelsen saw profits leap

## Expansion at Budgens

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

BUDGENS is planning an expansion programme, aiming to open ten new supermarkets and ten smaller petrol station forecourt outlets this year.

The company's shift from aggressive discounting to offering more fresh foods was justified yesterday, when it reported a 65 million rise in pre-tax profits, to £7.6 million, in the year to April 28.

Like-for-like sales increased by 4.5 per cent last year, and

climbed about 6 per cent in the first eight weeks of this year.

John von Spreckelsen, chief executive, said three Budgens stores have been opened in the last two months, with seven more planned. The petrol station forecourt stores will be at Q8 and Mobil stations. The company will also open a new bakery at Kettering, Northamptonshire, in September. A final dividend of 0.9p makes a total of 1.25p per share, up 14 per cent.

## Big increase in fixed-term contract jobs

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

FIXED-TERM contracts — deals offering work for a limited period, usually of a year — now account for one in five of the jobs being offered in Britain, a report says today.

Companies are forecasting, too, that fixed-term contracts will become as commonplace as traditional, open-ended employment.

Although business leaders are concerned about a lack of commitment to their employees among Britain's workforce, the findings of a study of short-term working published today suggest a growing use of forms of employment that are likely to continue to see commitment fall.

The study by Sanders and Sidney, the firm of outplacement specialists, among a sample of employers shows a "dramatic" increase in the use of fixed-term contracts, with 73 per cent of the companies surveyed having offered such deals within the past year. This figure is up from just 3 per cent five years ago.

The report says that among the companies sampled, one in five jobs now being offered are put forward on a fixed-term basis, with two-thirds of fixed-term deals for a year or less, and a quarter for 18 months or more.

Fixed-term deals are especially prevalent in larger organisations, in the public sector, and in the south of England, the study's detailed findings show. Such deals are being offered at all levels in organisations, from clerical and administration roles to work at professional and information technology levels.

Seventy per cent of employers believe fixed-term deals will become more common, and almost half say they will become as widespread as traditional employment contracts. Among job candidates surveyed, 93 per cent believe

that their use will grow. Job candidates do not like such deals, mainly because they make longer-term decisions, such as taking out mortgages, more difficult. Employers accept this problem, and acknowledge that they, rather than employees, have most to gain from fixed-term deals, with a "very high" 87 per cent agreeing with this.

Frances Cook, S&S managing director, says: "The fact is that fixed-term contracts will become a normal, unremarkable way of working, used alongside traditional open-ended contracts to provide the flexibility employers need in a commercial world."

## Pilkington sells last lens firm

BY PAUL DURMAN

PILKINGTON, the glass company, is ending its unsuccessful diversification into eyecare after agreeing the sale of its remaining contact lens business.

Pilkington Barnes Hind, which employs 700 at its Southampton factory and a similar number in California, is being sold for \$79 million to Wesley Jensen Corporation, a privately owned US company. In its last financial year, the contact lens-maker lost £4.5 million on sales of £82 million.

Hopes for Pilkington's visioncare business, assembled in the 1980s, were ruined by the recession and by Johnson & Johnson's invention of disposable contact lenses. A year ago, Pilkington decided to put its lens businesses up for sale, writing off £375 million in the process.

### Alternatives sought to Auchan bid

## Docks denies Tesco move

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

THE board of Docks de France, the French retail group, said yesterday that it would look for alternatives to a £2.1 billion takeover bid by Auchan, the privately owned retailer, but denied that Tesco was about to launch a friendly counter-offer.

Advisers to Tesco said that although it remained in touch with Docks, a counter-offer would probably be considered too expensive and risky. However, they did not rule it out.

One adviser said: "Tesco is keeping a close eye on the situation. Even if they don't have an agreement with Docks, it doesn't mean they are not talking." Tesco itself refused to comment.

Tesco shares closed down 2 1/2p at 300 1/2p, because of worries about a possible bid, which would almost certainly mean a rights issue.

Mike Dennis, a retail ana-

lyst with NatWest Securities, said: "Tesco cannot afford to not look at this business. But it would be a difficult thing to do. It is a justifiable strategy, but the question is how they would fund it."

Frank Davidson, of HSBC James Capel, said: "I'm sure Tesco has looked at it, but it is too big an acquisition. It would be messy, expensive and dilutive." He added that a rights issue would not be welcomed by Tesco shareholders. Tesco would probably have to bid about £2.5 billion for the company.

Tesco has said it is interested in expanding in France, where it already owns Caneau, a supermarket chain. If it decides against a bid for Docks, Tesco may find it hard to find another target. Consolidation in the French supermarket industry means that, as in the UK, there are few

opportunities to buy smaller regional chains.

Docks is an attractive target for Auchan, and potentially, for Tesco, because it is a well-run company and because of its control of Mammouth, the hypermarket chain. It generates 85 per cent of its revenue in France, where it also owns medium-sized supermarkets.

It also has interests in Spain and America. Three families have tight control of the company. Auchan built up a 17 per cent stake before launching its bid.

Auchan is another of France's major hypermarket operators and is 84 per cent owned by Gerard Mulliez and his family. The rest is owned by employees.

It is unwilling to give out financial information. However, it says it has £5.5 billion in cash and the full support of its bankers for the Docks deal.

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# Shares in BTR drop as investors lose patience

THE City's disenchantment with BTR, the industrial conglomerate, is growing. Shares in the group hit a new low for the year yesterday with a fall of 3½p to 243½p as more than 20 million shares changed hands. Several large lines of stock went through, including four million at 243½p, a further 2.3 million at 241½p and 2.4 million at 241½p. The price now stands at its lowest level for almost four years. The warrants were also hit with the 1995-96 falling 1½p to 4½p and the 1997-98 falling 1½p to 18p.

Despite recent reassurances, the market remains unimpressed with the pace at which the group is pursuing its disposal programme. In a bid to refocus its interests, in recent weeks it has made disposals totalling more than £400 million, but analysts maintain not enough is being done to re-establish the group's fortunes.

The rest of the equity market enjoyed an early mark-up but failed to consolidate its position, with institutional investors proving reluctant to chase prices higher. Not even a strong opening surge in the Dow Jones average, which went some way to preparing some of Monday night's fall-out, could induce them to part with their money.

The Chancellor's renege of his economic policy came as no real surprise and was deemed by many in the Square Mile to be still too optimistic. The FT-SE 100 index, up 16 points earlier in the day, closed 10.8 points higher at 3,752.3.

Total turnover reached 701 million shares, but after stripping out 85 million shares in Sunlight, 1½p dearer at 5p, the final figure left at 10, to be desired.

Among leading shares, British Airways rose 7p to 549p, encouraged by talks between the company and the airline pilots aimed at averting proposed industrial action. It has been estimated that action by the pilots during the peak holiday season, if it goes ahead, could cost BA £40 million a day.

Ashraf Marwan, the Egyptian financier who sprang to prominence when he built up a large stake in Fleet Holdings, publisher of the *Daily Express*, before it was swallowed up by United News and Media, has emerged as a major shareholder in Chelsea Village. Earlier this week he picked up 2.5 million shares



MICHAEL CLARK



Good news for Sir Gerald Whent as Vodafone rose 2p

raising his total holding to 5.74 million, or 4.74 per cent of the company. The shares finished 2p easier at 89p.

BSkyB, the satellite television broadcaster in which News International, owner of *The Times*, has a 40 per cent stake, celebrated its link with Kirch, the German broadcaster, with a jump of 14p to 468p. As part of the deal BSkyB will

be required to supply a digital pay-as-you-view television service. Brokers say the venture between BSkyB and Kirch could prove to be far more lucrative than the recently collapsed get-together between Bertelsmann, Canal+ and Havas.

Tesco slipped 2½p to 300½p on reports that it is considering a bid for Marks & Spencer, the French retailer that includes the Mammouth supermarket chain, whose hypermarket in Boulogne is a stop-off point for cross-channel day trippers topping up with cheap drink. The French retailer has since denied any involvement with Tesco.

Vodafone, whose chief executive is Sir Gerald Whent, slipped 2p to 237½p after announcing plans to spend

£62.6 million mopping up the remaining part of Talkland, the mobile phone services provider, it does not already own. It will pay Générale des Eaux £33.6 million for the outstanding 66 per cent of Talkland, plus pay off debts totalling £29 million. At the last count, Talkland had 400,000 subscribers, with 270,000 connected to Vodafone. The move will enable

Goldborough Healthcare slipped 2p to 165p after rejecting the terms of a bid from rival Westminster Health Care, down 6p at 312p. Jarvis responded to a buy recommendation from Peel Hunt, the broker, with a rise of 6p to 86p. Peel Hunt says the shares remain cheap despite having soared from a low of 17p in the past six months. Shares of Heritage, the houseware products distributor, were suspended at 23p at the company's request pending clarification of its financial position.

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Vodafone to attract new customers to its digital network.

Bespak celebrated a return to the black with a rise of 27p to 420p. Pre-tax profits ran out at £16.9 million compared with a deficit last time round of £14 million.

Better than expected full-year figures from John Menzies received a warm welcome from the City. Pre-tax profits were down from £38 million to £35.9 million, but would have deteriorated further had it not been for a second-half recovery in its wholesale operations. The shares responded to management changes with a rise of 19p to 574p.

Guardian Royal Exchange shed 5p to 238p after paying £75 million for Legal & General's commercial insurance arm. Last night brokers were expressing concern that GRE had paid too much for the deal, and Legal & General, up 3p at 671p, had the best of the deal.

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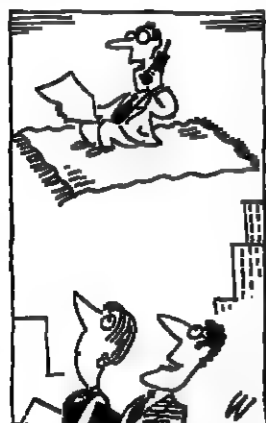
## MAJOR INDICES

<b>New York (midday):</b>	
Dow Jones	5574.10 (+23.2)
S&P Composite	655.17 (+2.6)
<b>Tokyo:</b>	
Nikkei Average	21919.52 (+5.1)
<b>Hong Kong:</b>	
Hang Seng	10929.63 (+39.5)
<b>Amsterdam:</b>	
EOT Index	556.76 (+2.3)
<b>Sydney:</b>	
AO	2195.3 (+1.4)
<b>Frankfurt:</b>	
DAX	2562.18 (+11.1)
<b>Singapore:</b>	
Strait	2215.44 (+5.8)
<b>Brussels:</b>	
General	9481.78 (+33.2)
<b>Paris:</b>	
CAC-40	2076.57 (+2.4)
<b>Zurich:</b>	
SEA Gen	803.30 (+4.8)

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Dumb dogs and bankers

HERBERT ALLEN, the Wall Street financier, is clearly making a bid to be top dog among US deal-makers. This weekend, he hosts his annual Sun Valley conference in Colorado where the likes of Bill Gates, Warren Buffett and Lord Holford rub shoulders — and last year the Disney/ABC merger was hatched. Ahead of this, he has given an interview to *Forbes* magazine that starts: "Over a long weekend I could teach my dog to be an investment banker." Intrepidly, we called to find out what sort of super-canine he owns. "I have four dogs," he explained. "The one I was referring to is a Scottish black labrador, which is the dumbest of the lot."



"Nothing to do with the airways strike — that is the carpet flotation"

### Peak condition

SECOND time lucky for Derek Bell, chief executive of Christchurch, the insurance broker, who has successfully scaled Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa. Bell reached the 19,340 ft summit yesterday, bettering an attempt in 1991, when he was forced to turn back at 17,000ft because of altitude sickness. Eight employees accompanied him on the expedition, in aid of charity, which was organised by Steve Pallett, a former commando. Christchurch is the largest non-marine treaty international insurance broker in sub-Saharan Africa.

### No claim bonus

HISCOX Underwriting had particular reason to welcome the lone yachtswoman, Samantha Brewster, back safely. The company had insured her boat for the single-handed trip the wrong way round the world. Battered by waves, she had to make a detour to Brazil for repairs, then an electrical fire put her craft out of action. But she proved a perfect policyholder and did not make a single claim against the policy, which cost about £32,000. Rob Page, of Hiscox, says the company has a growing number of sailors on its books, but unfortunately they are not necessarily of the same quality and tend to make more claims.

### Watermark

ANOTHER rainy summer day in Merseyside was greeted with enthusiasm at a recent meeting of the Merseyside Development Corporation. The chairman opened the session declaring it "a wonderful day". But Sir Desmond Pither has his own slant on the climate — he is also chairman of United Utilities, the company created when North West Water bought Norweb.

### Cold comfort

LOOKS like WH Smith was hoping for better weather. It is offering Cornetto ice-creams to customers who spend £5 or more. The promotion, running in the group's top 100 stores, sees bemused customers handed a voucher enabling them to claim their treat. Some checkout staff seem desperate to get rid of the things. Newspapers and ice-cream? "It's mutually beneficial to both parties," says a frosty spokesman.



Going for gold: Billy Payne, the main mover in securing the Olympics for Atlanta, has made 3,500 speeches in his "aw-shucks" style to hype the event

## Upstart that won the race to pick up Olympic torch

Ian Brodie meets the former university football star whose dream came true

One Sunday nine years ago, Billy Payne was wondering what to do next to help his community. He had just raised \$2 million for a new sanctuary at his church in suburban Atlanta and he felt good about that. Then the inspiration struck him. He scribbled on a piece of paper: "Olympics 1996". At the time, the idea seemed absurd. Los Angeles had held the 1984 Games, so why would another American city be chosen so soon? Besides, Athens would be everyone's sentimental favourite to honour its centenary as the birthplace of the modern Games in 1996.

Mr Payne's wife, Martha, told him he was crazy. Andrew Young, then mayor of Atlanta, echoed the sentiment. The Coca-Cola Company, usually eager to boost its home city, offered no help. But Mr Payne not only pressed on, but pledged that his games would be funded entirely from private sources and without cost to taxpayers.

He recruited eight friends who shared his dream and who dug into their pockets for \$50,000 of seed money. A trio of society hostesses laid on two splendid parties for the US Olympic Committee. Impressed, it agreed to support Atlanta's bid to the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Suddenly, Mr Payne was everybody's visionary. The mayor was convinced the Games need not cost Atlanta a dime. Coca-Cola came on board with \$1 million and a corporate jet. Other companies chipped in \$7 million to finance the bid. Mr Payne, who had never been overseas, left his job as a property lawyer, took out a \$1.5 million loan to keep himself afloat and set out to woo the IOC.

Its members were invited to Atlanta, put up in millionaires' homes, and visited with gifts and Southern hospitality. Mr Young contacted diplomats he had known as America's first black ambassador to the UN to enlist Third World support. When the IOC voted, Manchester and other contenders went out quickly. On the fifth

ballot, Athens was deemed to lack the roads, hotels and airport to cope with the crowds. By 51 votes to 35, the torch passed to Atlanta, the upstart known as the Big Hustle.

In January 1991, with 2,000 days to go, the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (Acog) was incorporated as a private, non-profit organisation, with Billy Payne as president and chief executive. Mr Payne was an American football star at university and is still, at 48, a strapping, energetic figure. Yet he has undergone two heart by-pass operations: the first at 34, the second three years ago. In April, he was sidelined with neck surgery for a painfully chipped vertebra. By way of slowing down, he now arrives in his office an hour later, at 5.30am. He has made 3,500 speeches in his "aw-shucks" style to hype the Games.

His late father drove him to be a workhorse and perfectionist, but never gave him the adulation he craved. With every school report and after every football game he asked his father: "Was I good, are you proud of me?" His father always replied: "The only thing that matters, Billy, is did you do your best?" Mr Payne recalls: "Never once in those thousands of conversations with my dad could I ever respond that, yes, I had done my best. I carry that burden to this day. It's obvious what motivates me now."

For all his dynamism, Mr Payne lacked the management skills to create out of thin air a \$1.7 billion enterprise. He hired experts, led by A.D. Frazier, a top Chicago banker, but he still tried to micro-manage the details and there were fearful rows. He made mistakes. Desperate for money, he sold US TV rights to NBC for \$456 million when he should have held out for \$600 million. He devised an Olympic park for a

derelict area of central Atlanta and tried to pay for it by selling \$35 pavement bricks to the public, each engraved with the buyer's name. The target was two million bricks; so far only 338,000 have been sold.

Mr Payne never fully won over Atlanta's working-class blacks, who believed the Games would pass them by and benefit only the city's ruling coalition of white capitalists and black politicians. Even in these final days, when it is practically impossible not to find work at the Olympics, there are advocates for the homeless and black clergy still trying to squeeze no-interest loans out of Acog for those allegedly unable to profit from the Games.

Acog has laboured in the shadow of the Los Angeles Olympics, also privately run, which made a profit of \$225 million and donated it to sports. Mr Payne believed Atlanta's surplus could reach \$150 million, but not any more. Acog's latest balance sheet shows a "contingency" of \$30 million that could become a surplus if unused. Auditors put the figure at \$13 million. In fact, with the Games about to begin, no one really knows if they will break even.

John Lucas, a professor of sports history and an Olympics expert, thinks Acog will lose money because of huge overtime payments and cost over-runs in the final scramble to be ready on time. He added: "Everyone else involved will make fortunes, from sponsors to ice-cream vendors."

While Los Angeles required little construction, Acog has poured more than \$500 million into new facilities, including the Olympic Stadium, which will be given to Atlanta for baseball afterwards. Mr Payne and his team squeezed millions of dollars from

sponsors and licensees and mounted an aggressive merchandising campaign. Acog printed a record 11 million tickets and has sold close to nine million at about \$40 each. Atlanta will have more events, 271, more countries, 197, and more athletes, 10,000-plus, than any previous Olympics.

It was a myth that the Olympics could be held with no public investment. Atlanta's voters approved a bond issue of \$150 million for improvements to roads and bridges. Georgia built a cluster of college dorms and rented them to Acog as the Olympic village. Washington will spend an estimated \$200 million on security.

But there are no provisions to bail out creditors with public funds if Acog falls into debt, even though Atlanta will reap a bonanza from two million visitors paying hotel and sales taxes, airport fees and car parking charges.

Whether or not Atlanta makes money, the Olympic movement will not teeter along this free-market tight-rope again, according to Dick Pound, Canada's IOC member. "We will never in future award the Games to a city which has no significant public sector commitment, either as a financial contribution or at the very least a guarantee to meet necessary costs."

Acog's focus on the Games has been diverted by the constant need to raise private sector money. Mr Pound contended in a speech. Unlike corporations of comparable size, Acog cannot have a bad financial year and recover the next. It has one shot at success and then disappears forever.

Given the tight budget, critics have questioned Mr Payne's salary of \$669,112, the highest of any US non-profit group. But they forget how he put the bid together. He still owes \$500,000 on his loan. He has no idea what to do next, other than play golf for a month. He, of all people, deserves an Olympic medal. Perhaps, that would make up for not having a pat on the back from Dad.



ANTHONY HARRIS

## Greenspan: a hard act to follow

When the Bundesbank pursues covert devaluation, and Jean-Claude Trichet urges French industry to take advantage of low interest rates, it is time to take notice. The hard men of monetary policy — Trichet is virtually the *franc fort* personified — are suddenly acting soft, and even talking soft. They seem to have woken up to the fact that the US Fed's "soft" policies, which they have so often denounced, are producing much better results than their hard ones — faster growth, higher employment, a higher budget balance, and even low inflation. They have yet to praise Alan Greenspan, the Fed chairman, but it seems clear that he is their example.

Can Europe, then, look forward to US-style prosperity? Possible, but not probable for Greenspan would be the first to agree that he does not deserve all the credit. He is able to experiment with faster growth (and his secret is his open-minded experimental approach), because he is working with what seems so far to be a non-inflationary economy. Price and wage restraint in the US are the result of the changing structure of the labour market, genuine trade liberalisation, and high investment, not the result of monetary policy, and not easy to imitate.

The US labour market has always been flexible, but it is becoming much more so. Down-sizing and outsourcing have opened new areas to competition, and spread even to hiring. Labour has hardly resisted these changes, partly because of NAFTA, and its threat that jobs may emigrate. America has opened its markets to low-cost competition from the South far more wholeheartedly than Europe has done to the East.

This is still only part of the story. Fed governors frequently try to convince the bond markets that inflation is still in check. They cite no wage restraint — real earnings are in fact beginning to rise, after a painfully long pause — or low-cost competi-

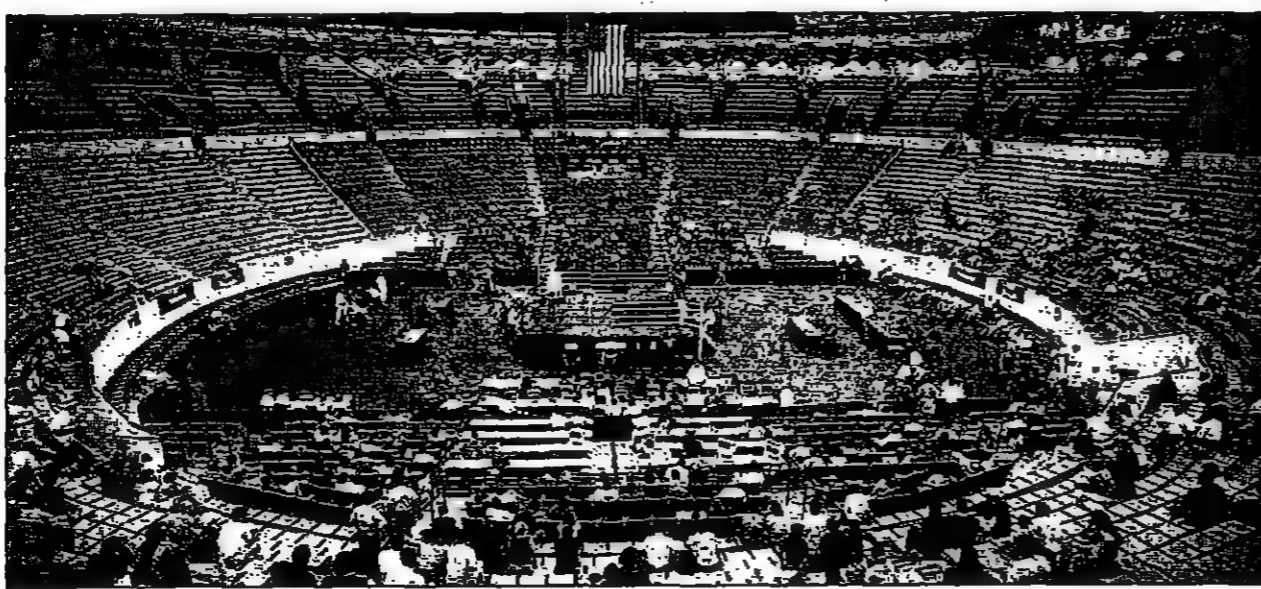
tion, but productivity. Output is rising faster than employment, so there is room for higher rewards. That, in turn, is partly because of the sustained boom in investment spending, still at a high level. As a result, the Fed's measure of capacity utilisation has been falling steadily as the economy has grown, and there is still strong and sometimes painful competition in all goods markets. The US, in short, has achieved investment-led growth, the ultimate virtuous circle.

Is this the result simply of low interest rates? Only in a sense because the first result of the Fed's rate cuts (which were designed to bail out the banking system rather than the real economy) was not in business activity, but in the stock market.

Ordinary small savers, finding that their thrift accounts were offering miserable returns, switched into mutual funds (in English, unit trusts) on an unprecedented scale. This initiated the Wall Street bull run, which in turn has encouraged ever higher mutual fund sales. The boom in real investment has been financed not through the banks, as in the past (and as in Europe), but through the stock markets.

Only Britain, among EC countries, could hope for stock market-led growth: the continental markets are not big enough. That should not make us snug, for America's strength could also prove its weakness.

Bull markets do not last for ever, and Wall Street now seems to have outrun the facts: the fierce markets which have checked inflation have also strangled profit growth. The professionals are nervous: the real reason for the temporary setback to the Dow was not Friday's employment pretty average, but that the market is waiting for a fall. Could US growth continue with a flat market? I believe so; but that is a declaration of faith, not of economic reasoning.



Standing count: millions of dollars have flowed in from sponsors, but no one really knows if the Games will break even

## Fast forward in TV wars

The Kirch Gruppe and BSkyB have won the first round of the multi-billion-dollar contest to create a digital satellite broadcasting system in continental Europe. Their alliance in Germany, called DFL, is to launch a 17-channel service in less than three weeks, putting sudden pressure on rival media companies to get in the game before it is too late.

Satellite broadcasting in digital form is the media world's next great frontier. It is fairly well established in analogue form. BSkyB, which is 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of the *Times*, has more than 5 million subscribers in Britain. However, it is constrained by the number of services and channels it can offer, so reducing potential profitability.

Digital broadcasting has fewer limitations. A technological marvel called digital compression allows the broadcast of hundreds of video and audio channels. All that is needed is the capital to set up the system and buy the endless torrent of

programming required to fill all those channels.

This is where Kirch and BSkyB come in. Both have the financial clout to enable them to move quickly when they spot opportunities. BSkyB brings experience in pay-TV marketing, packaging and subscriber management systems. Kirch's strength is access to programming. Leo Kirch, the secretive Bavarian media mogul who controls the company, made his fortune by acquiring much of the German and European rights to Hollywood's film output, and last week he won the rights to football's 2002 and 2006 World Cup finals outside America.

BSkyB acquired 49 per cent of DFL in exchange for the commitment to fund its share of the start-up costs, which are estimated at \$300 million, or more over the next three years. The industry consensus is that the launch of a "digital platform" such as DFL requires an investment of \$500 million to \$600 million and has little chance of breaking even until

about one million subscribers are recruited.

The German language market, which includes Austria and most of Switzerland, is a potential gold mine because of its size and the relative wealth of its potential customers. It has some 40 million homes, making it twice as big as the British market.

Sheer expense aside, the one factor working against DFL is the popularity of cable-TV in Germany. BSkyB got off to a flying start in Britain partly because the cable companies were bit-players at the time.

The question now is whether Kirch and BSkyB will be allowed to keep the German-language spoils to themselves. Many analysts think that Bertelsmann, Kirch's arch rival, has no choice but to set up a rival system. Bertelsmann had planned to do so with BSkyB and two French TV companies, Canal Plus and Havas. Frustrated by the lack of progress it was making, BSkyB abandoned the alliance

a few weeks ago and joined forces with Kirch.

Bertelsmann could go ahead with its remaining partners, but there is a big question about Canal Plus's allegiance to the German company. Canal Plus was not pleased with Bertelsmann's recent decision to merge with CLT of Luxembourg — a deal that created the largest broadcaster in Europe — and may decide to follow BSkyB out of the door.

The BSkyB-Kirch partnership plays down the possibility of a challenge from a Bertelsmann-led alliance. It believes Bertelsmann's more immediate goal is to consolidate its position in German terrestrial TV. Once their merger is completed, Bertelsmann and CLT will control RTL, Germany's main commercial channel. If Bertelsmann decides to go on the attack, it will have to move before BSkyB and Kirch get too far ahead. The memory of British Satellite Broadcasting's painful experience in Britain is still fresh.

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**W2 NEWS HOUSE** Sensitively modernised, 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 reception rooms, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

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Stunning 3 bed house with high ceilings, 2 baths, 2 reception rooms, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

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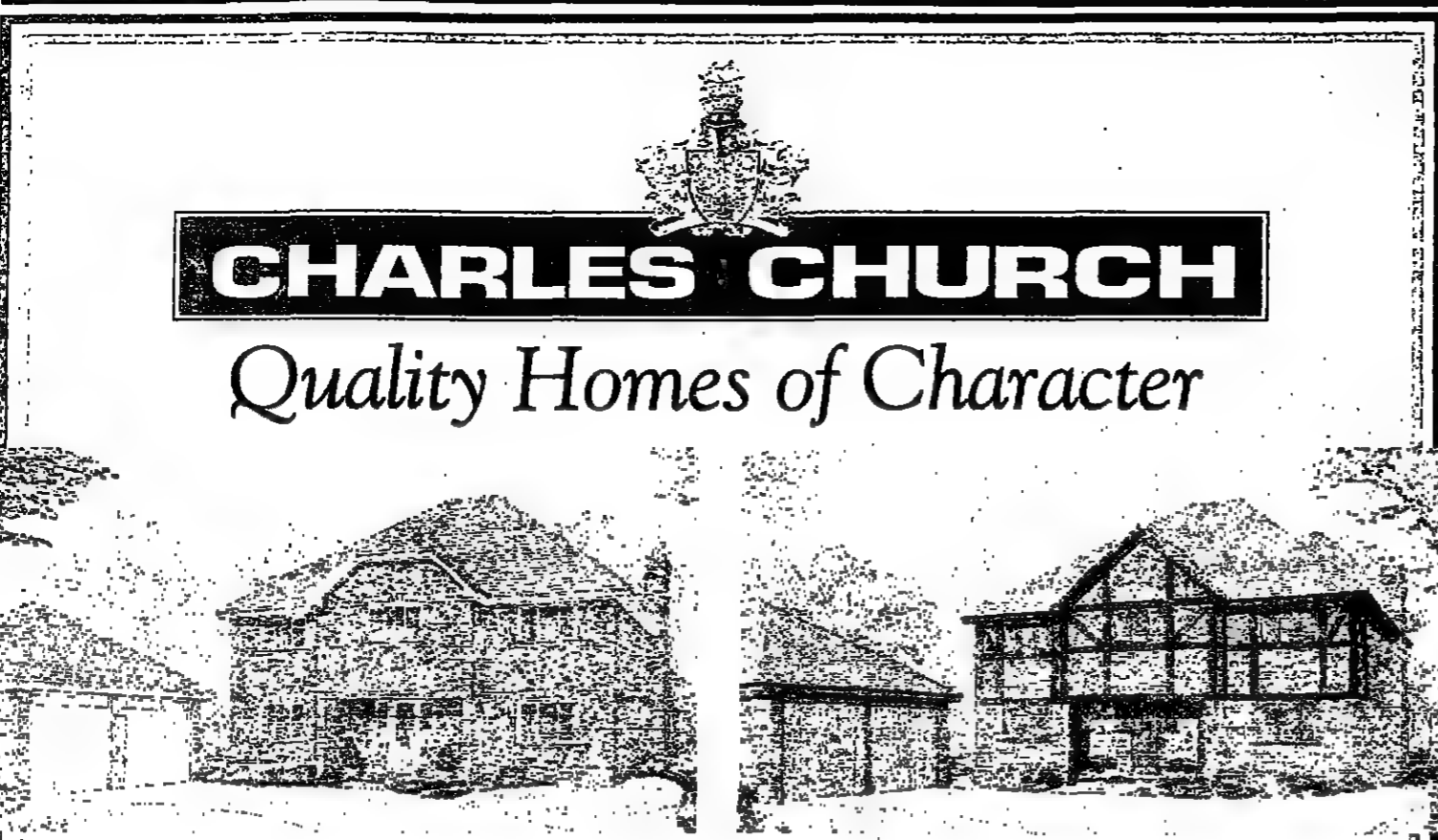
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**BERKSHIRE**  
**BERKSHIRE DOWNS** Exclusive 100 acre estate, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

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## NEW HOMES



The Chalfont at Tylers Wood, Hazlemere

**CHARVIL - Chalfont**  
Set in the tiny parish of Charvil, a predominantly rural area adjacent to the M40 and M4, this development is ideally placed for commuting to London and the South West. This development will feature a selection of homes in a wide variety of designs and elevations, 4 and 5 bedrooms. Prices to be released in the Autumn.  
To register on the waiting list call 01276 808090.

**CROWTHORNE - Trinity Place**  
This highly sought after location of Dulles Road will feature just 4 and 5 bedroom homes including the magnificent five gabled Rectory. Set almost directly opposite Wellington College, the development is also ideally placed with access to the M3 and Crowthorne BR station is within walking distance. Price guide from £210,000.  
To register on the waiting list call 01344 776010.

**TWYFORD - Kings Green**  
This is the last chance to buy on this development located in the heart of the idyllic Kings Green village surrounded by open countryside and conveniently placed with good communications via road and rail to London & the South West. Only one 3 and one 4 bedroom home now remains including the superb flat fronted Rosefield showhome, just released at £179,950. Prices from £123,950.  
Telephone 01734 321323. Showhome Open.\*

**WINDSOR - My Way**  
This classic and highly popular flat fronted Lichfield is being built as an individual plot off a private drive in much sought after St Leonard's Hill, Windsor. Solid concrete floors and the opportunity to personalise the home from a long list of standard features and optional extras are in addition to the superbly planned accommodation and excellent specification. Price to be released shortly.  
To register on the waiting list call 01276 808090.

**WORKINGHAM - Everdons**  
Just one home now remains on this spectacular development of 5 bedroom homes set in its own secluded close. The Wilsey is a home with great character and charm featuring timbered and rendered elevations in traditional English style to reflect the rural nature of the area. Accommodation includes 4 reception rooms and en-suite bath or shower rooms to two of the bedrooms. Price £135,000.  
Telephone 01734 776776. Viewing by appointment.

**WOODLEY - Harrington Court**  
Only four detached homes remain on this select development set in a delightful close within a residential area. Each of the homes has an excellent specification with en-suite facilities to the master bedroom. The distinctive Regency-style Redwood showhome is now available at £194,950 including a host of extras. Prices from £124,500 - £194,950.  
Telephone 01734 666991. Showhome Open.\*

\*All sales offices and showhomes are open every day from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Prices and availability correct at time of going to press.

**BATTERSEA SW11**  
Close to Victoria Station, 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 reception rooms, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

**HARROW ON THE HILL**  
Private road, detached house, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 8 reception rooms, large kitchen, garage & outbuildings, set in 1/8 acre of garden, £295,000. Tel: 0181 8466333.

**BELGRAVIA**  
**MIRRA** 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 reception rooms, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

**GARDEN FLAT SW7**  
Immaculate, Spacious and Quiet, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (1 en-suite), kitchen, reception with fireplace, utility room and extra utility area, 3 large balconies for sunbathing, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

**CRANMER COURT SW2**  
Fourth Floor Flat in excellent decorative order. Large reception room, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen, cloakroom, entryphone, lift, Porters, Separate bathroom, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

**BOLTON GARDENS SW5**  
2 beds, 1 bath, bright apartment, quiet, well loc. 2nd floor with lift. Shared of Freshfield. Low outgoings. Many extras. View today.  
Price - £69,950  
0171 244 7830  
Anytime

**BLACKHEATH**  
**BLACKHEATH/GREENWICH**  
Houses, 4 storey Victorian, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

**CITY & WEST END**  
**BARBICAN**, reduced from 99k to 85k for quick sale. 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 reception rooms, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

**BLOOMSBURY W.C.** Charming freehold house of character in Dorset Square, 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 reception rooms, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

**COVENT GARDEN W1** 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 reception rooms, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

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**COVENT GARDEN W1** 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 reception rooms, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

**HIGHBURY/ISLINGTON**  
**BARBICAN** W1 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 reception rooms, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

**W1, 3 bed, 2 bath** quality new house, full gas central heating, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

**W1** Newly built 3 bed house, 2 baths, 2 reception rooms, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

**KENSINGTON & CHELSEA**  
**BYWATER ST SW3** Bright modernised 2 bed terrace house, 2 baths, 2 reception rooms, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

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**SOVEREIGN MEWS**  
Quality homes at affordable prices. 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

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**GLORIOUS VIEWS**  
Over river to open parkland, 4 bed townhouse, 3 baths, living room, new studio design kitchen, River terrace, 10 ft. garden, garage, £150,000. Tel: 0181 992 2291.

**WIMBLEDON**  
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**MORTIMER VILLAGE**  
4 bed detached house in small development, immaculate decorative order, spacious lounge, en-suite bathroom, £124,950. 01734 331134 or 01628 770018

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**Crowthorne** £230,000 to £255,000 01256 814314  
Kingsley Place. A development of five 4 and 5 bedroom homes within easy reach of the village centre and close to managed woodlands. These exclusive executive homes are well located for Bracknell and Camberley, offering excellent shopping and leisure facilities and the site is convenient for access to the M3 and M4.

**Sunningdale** £175,000 01628 770070  
Belvedere Grange. A beautiful detached country style mansion - the Evening Standard Award Best New Apartment winner - containing just six luxury apartments. The 3 bedroom penthouse, with glorious views over Sunningdale Golf Course, and benefiting from an interior design scheme, is now available.

**Windsor** £126,500 01628 770070  
Prospect Place. Situated within walking distance of historic Windsor town centre, just eight minutes 2 bedroom apartments and one 3 bedroom duplex property, available with allocated parking and views towards Windsor Castle from the apartments. Choice of two British Rail stations to Paddington and Waterloo. One third already sold.

**Canford Cliffs, Poole** £104,950 to £225,000 01256 814314  
Canford Heights. Western Road. An exclusive development of only sixteen prestigious 2 and 3 bedroom apartments in a private secure setting, close to both the beach and village centre. These luxury apartments all have secure storage areas, the use of a gymnasium and a Porter (optional). Canford Heights offers a choice of layouts and are ready for occupation. 50% already reserved.

**Colham** £850,000 01932 866999  
Harebell Hill. In a prime residential location, an exclusive single 5 bedroom, 6 reception room property with en suite bathrooms, triple garage and good size rear garden. This property is fully carpeted with light fittings and landscaped gardens.

**Hampton** £825,000 01628 770070  
Hampton Court Road. A rare opportunity to purchase a classically inspired 4 bedroom home, situated near historic Hampton Court Palace and overlooking Hampton Green. The property has a 3/40 ft garden which sweeps down to the banks of the River Thames with views towards Hampton Weir, and is available with private mooring.

**Leatherhead** £200,000 01932 866999  
Keston Road. Situated in a village location outside Leatherhead with fabulous views over the surrounding landscape, a forthcoming development of two barn conversions comprising of 5/6 bedrooms, 4/5 reception rooms, en suite facilities and garages.

\*Showhome or sales centre open daily from 10am

**Sunningdale, Berkshire**

<b>COTSWOLDS</b> COTSWOLDS (near Oxford) 6 miles 2 bed detached in converted stone house. 2 acres garden. 115,000. 01229 223999	<b>CUMBRIA</b> <b>LAKE DISTRICT</b> National Park, within 10 miles of Coniston Old Man (6 miles). Large detached house, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, garage. Gardens include 6.85 acres. £285,000. Tel: 01229 716396	<b>DORSET</b> <b>ISLE OF PURBECK</b> Quality detached house of approx 1900 sq ft with fine country views over open country. Built in a high standard in 1990. Lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility, 3/4 bath, 2 beds, 1 shower room, triple glazing & double garage. Well maintained garden. £165,000 Tel: 01202 491121	<b>ESSEX</b> <b>WANTED</b> Period property. North East Chelmsford Up to £400,000 Telephone: 01621 882854	<b>HAMPSHIRE</b> <b>MEON VALLEY</b> Period farmhouse in 2 acres of mature landscaped garden with studio and outbuildings. 1 reception, garden room, kitchen/dining, bath, 4 beds and attic room, near main road and bus. £350,000. Tel: 01259 833481	<b>KENT</b> <b>WISBECH</b> 2 bed detached in 19th century house. 2 acres of garden. 115,000. 01229 223999	<b>SURREY</b> 2 bed detached in 19th century house. 2 acres of garden. 115,000. 01229 223999	<b>LONDON RENTALS</b> A.M.A. INTERNATIONAL Luxury flats & houses for rent short or long term. All Central London areas. 0171 754 4844	<b>CARIBBEAN</b> <b>BARBADOS</b> Luxury detached in suburban country club resort, pool, tennis & golf. Private co-ownership management. 1000 sq ft. £18,000 Tel: 01256 704 651
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<b>EAST ANGLIA</b> NORFOLK 6 miles south Nor- wich, 6 bed farmhouse with 1000 sq ft of garden. 200,000. 01229 223999	<b>LONDON PROPERTY</b> <b>CLUTTONS</b> 20 LUXURY APARTMENTS & 9 PENTHOUSES Central Square combines two elements: absolute tranquility and a prime City location. Set in the seclusion of St Mark's Street, the development is focused around a striking, architect-designed courtyard. Here, tranquility is accentuated by sensitive landscaping and running water from the central fountain. Yet Central Square is just yards from London's financial centre.
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Rachel Kelly explains why high-priced properties are selling fast, sometimes without going to market

The great white hope of the property market has failed to charge to the rescue. Hundreds of second homes and country houses were expected to be sold because of the financial problems of Lloyd's syndicates — but sales have not materialised in any number.

The extra supply would have been more than welcome in today's market because agents everywhere are complaining of a lack of supply of good country houses, as they have done for several years. Buyers everywhere, but not a house to sell, sums up the market.

The latest report from Black Horse Agencies reveals that 65 per cent of buyers have no properties to sell. Many buyers are those who have been renting and are now returning to homeownership. Others are first-time buyers, who again provide no new supply.

Paddy Stewart-Morgan of Cluttons in Bath says: "Since February, we have seen a growing imbalance in the number of people selling and those looking to buy. Offices close to London in the Home Counties areas and as far west as Bath have seen a 20 per cent drop in instructions to sell, compared with this time last year."

"Within a 50-mile radius of London, demand has been exceeding supply for the past nine to 12 months."

Cluttons has found that properties within the £300,000 to £400,000 range are in greatest demand. London bonuses, a slight panic that the market is on the move and low interest rates are all fuelling demand.

Mr Stewart-Morgan says: "People particularly want well-presented properties in a good position. Despite the shortage, you tend to find that those properties that do not meet the criteria will lose their appeal automatically if they have not sold within two or three months."

"It is a Catch-22 for vendors and sellers alike. Unlike the situation a few years ago, when you automatically put your house on the market then started looking, people are doing the reverse. By the time an agent has become involved in selling their house, the home of their dreams has gone to someone in a better financial situation. This

# Wanted: grand houses



One grand home that came on sale and recently sold is Naphill House in Buckinghamshire



Lihou Island off Guernsey, below, and the house that went with it



caution is preventing a number of good quality houses coming to market."

Rupert Bradstock of the buying agency Property Vision agrees. There has always been a shortage of good quality houses to buy," he says. "But the shortage is now worsening."

James Laing from Strutt & Parker has a different theory. In his view, the market is not suffering from a lack of supply. It is just that buyers and sellers are doing deals very quickly. As soon as a good house comes on the market, it is snapped up, he says.

England's housing market is bad at adjusting to supply. Planning restrictions mean that it is difficult to respond quickly, even to small changes in demand.

Knight Frank's country house department says the shortage is so great that a black market in the best of Britain's available properties is fast developing.

Last year £14.5 million worth of property was sold privately by Knight Frank's country house department. It has already sold £11 million of property privately this year.

Rupert Sweeting of Knight Frank says: "Nearly 12 per cent of the deals we have carried out this year have been done in private, compared with less than 5 per cent two years ago."

"Selling a property privately has always appealed to those who are at the top end of the market. Owners of such property are often people who place a high value on

privacy, and prefer to sell their house quietly."

"As soon as a property is on the market, everyone knows the owner is moving and they can establish the value of the house."

Ian Stewart of Savills believes that vendors will even take a lower asking price than risk the publicity of selling on an open market.

When a country house does come on to the market, competition is fierce. Strutt & Parker recently sold Wilbury Park near Salisbury in Hampshire. The asking price was for offers of more than £5 million. The house was finally sold for £8 million.

Mr Bradstock cites three types of buyers for country estates: "There are developers who are looking for rollover tax relief by buying

another business; inheritance planners, who avoid 40 per cent inheritance tax if they invest in a farm; and overseas buyers."

There is a faint hope, though, that in the coming months, Lloyd's may finally contribute to supply as beleaguered names finally settle their bills. To date, agents argue that Lloyd's losses have made scant impact.

Mr Stewart says: "Anybody who has expected losses will have been thinking ahead over the past few years. We have found that most Lloyd's names who face huge bills first sell possessions other than the family house. They try to hang on to the house for as long as possible. For example, they may sell a secondary home abroad, or a work of art before the main house."

But those who have not yet paid will henceforth be forced to do so in order to join Equitas, the reinsurance company being set up by Lloyd's to take over responsibility for risks insured in 1992 and earlier.

Lloyd's says that names who refuse to participate in the new firm will be pursued in the courts to the full extent of their debt. Letters explaining the offer's terms were sent to 34,000 names last month. Indicative statements of the individual amounts that names are likely to pay will come later this month. The final bills are expected to go out by the end of July. Lloyd's hopes that the whole process will be wrapped up by the end of August.

Second homes are likely to be hit because names would have used

their property assets as security. They were unable to use their main residence.

Mr Bradstock says: "We have already seen a number of sales from people who know, since the setting-up of Equitas, that they are going to have to pay their bills."

Patrick Ramsay, the head of country houses at Knight Frank, says: "I don't think there will be a rush of houses, but there will, perhaps, be a trickle. This will be good news for agents because the country house market is suffering from a lack of supply."

"We estimate that the number of houses for sale is 20 per cent down on last year, so new houses that come on sale because of Lloyd's will be easily absorbed by the market."

Agents are loath to disclose details of sales because of Lloyd's fear that the houses will become known for having been in "distressed" sales. Usually, they are sold for a number of reasons.

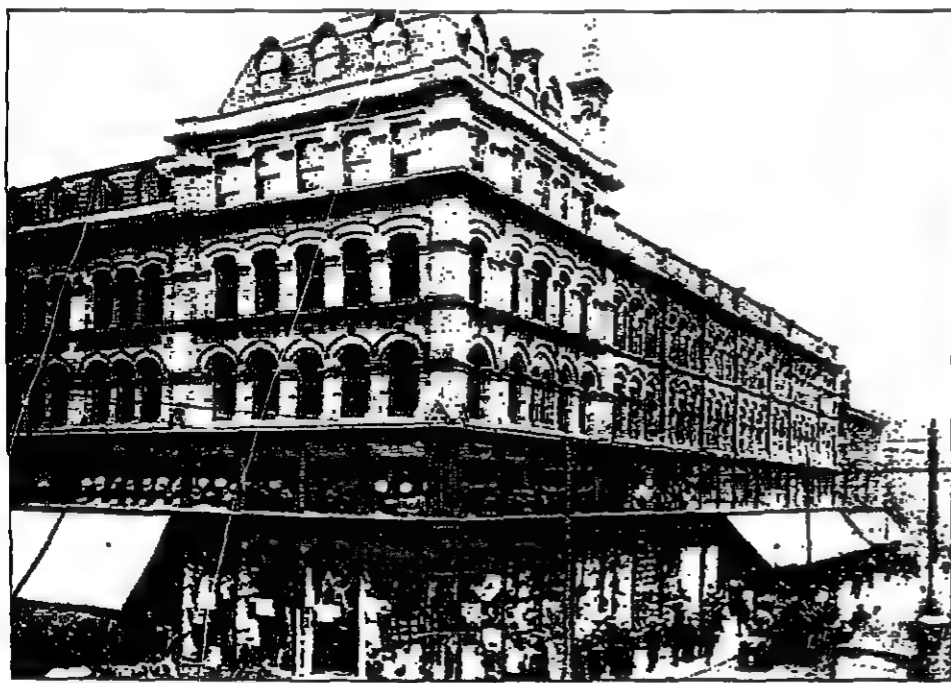
Recent sales include that of the Sarsden estate, which includes an exceptionally pretty Georgian house, near Chipping Norton, in Oxfordshire. It was sold by Christopher Stockwell, known for his work on Lloyd's action committees, for an undisclosed sum. And Naphill House, a four-bedroom house in Buckinghamshire, offered at about £550,000, sold quickly.

C orby Castle, in Cumbria, was sold by Sir John Howard-Lawson in part because of Lloyd's losses. Thorn Hill Park, near Sialbridge in Dorset, was sold by John Rew because of Lloyd's losses, and the 40-acre island of Lihou off the southwest coast of Guernsey in the Channel Islands was sold by the writer Robin Burwick.

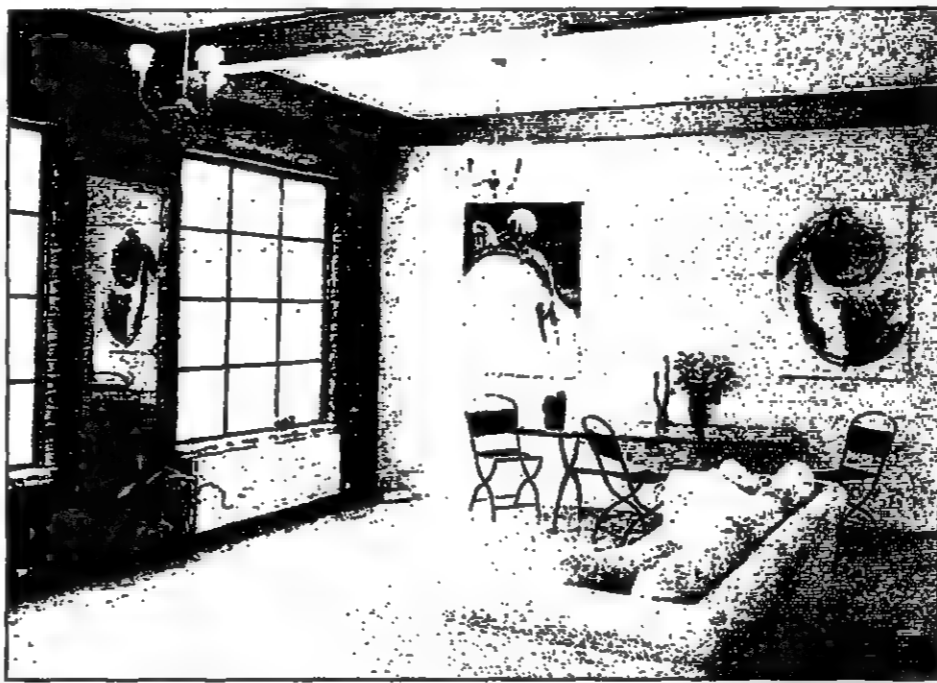
The main reason for the sale was Mr Borwick's ill-health — and because being a Lloyd's name made it difficult to support the luxury of owning an island.

Peter Carne of Knight Frank says: "Normally, what happens is that Lloyd's brings things to a head. You have to imagine a family who might have had an income of £50,000 a year from Lloyd's and now are facing paying out the same sum. That's a loss of £100,000."

Additional research by Amanda Looe.



Manchester's Affleck & Brown department store is being converted to include stylish loft apartments. Right, an Urban Splash apartment in Liverpool's Concert Square



## Historic win for Sandwich

English Heritage praises an ancient Cinque Port town

The picturesque town of Sandwich in Kent can claim to be one of the most historic in the country.

The latest report of English Heritage's *Monitor* found that the town, on the easternmost edge of the East Kent peninsula, has the highest density of listed buildings in England. Figures for 1994 show that of the 2,500 buildings in Sandwich, 577 are of historic and architectural interest, and three quarters of those within the town walls are listed.

The character of many historic towns suffered during development of retail stores and offices and widespread demolition of old buildings. *Monitor* says. But because strategic interest in Sandwich as a Cinque Port faded in the Middle Ages after its harbour filled with silt, the town has remained almost untouched.

Just as the loss of the port saved buildings from being ravaged by redevelopment schemes, so the recent recession, according to Clive Alexander, planning and technical services director of Dover District Council, also prevented people "throwing money at buildings and doing horrendous things to them."

He adds: "The town became a backwater. Now it is one of the area's most attractive places because it is so unspoilt."

The street plan of Sandwich has changed little since 1086. In his book *A Saunter Through Kent*, published in 1926, Charles Iglesden, a local historian, wrote: "These good Sandwichians love you so much that they have laid out their town in the form of a maze, to keep you inside for all time!"

The pattern of the medieval town remains, with building blocks originating from the 13th century, and streets crisscrossed with curious and handsome buildings of all shapes and sizes.

It was one of the earliest urban communities to emerge during the Anglo-Saxon civilisation. "Sandwich" is Saxon for "a settlement on the sand", and a conservation area has preserved the town's charm.

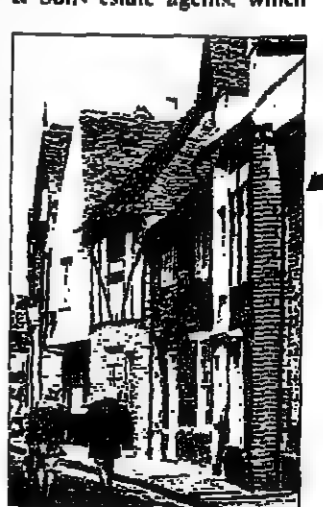
Several of the buildings are said to have been used at times by England's monarchs, among them Henry VIII, who is believed to have watched the departure of the fleet for the Field of the Cloth of Gold from the garret window of what is now known as the King's Lodging. It has one of the finest timber-frames in Sandwich and the King's

coat of arms remain on the door.

The novelist Virginia Woolf restored the house in the 1960s, but sold it when she felt that the ambience did not suit her writing. The building now serves its original purpose as holiday accommodation.

Another key listed building is The Salutation, described by Charles Wanstrocht, the honorary curator and architect for Sandwich, as the "jewel in the crown" of its building. Sir Edwin Lutyens. It was saved from development in the early 1990s and the gardens of the 1912 house have been restored to the original Gertrude Jekyll design.

Sandwich is an attractive place to buy, especially for second homes. Belinda Venables, manager of G.W. Finn & Sons estate agents, which



The town's streets retain a traditional look

has been in the area for 150 years, describes Sandwich as a "toy town."

She says: "It's the most pleasant place around here to live in and the houses are a safe investment. Sandwich is like a toy town: it's very quaint. People keep discovering the town, and as soon as the best listed houses come on the market, they are sold."

A two-bedroom cottage in Fisher Street with a garden view of the medieval St Clement's Church has just sold at about £59,000. For sale at £79,500 is a three-level house on Strand Street overlooking the River Stour. The house contains an old solicitor's office lined with polished pine, which is listed in its own right. Near by, Bess's Cottage, with inglenook fireplace, exposed ceiling beams and attic bedroom, is for sale at £89,000.

JENNAI COX

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## A 24-hour united city

Manchester's heart beats faster as people move back despite the IRA bomb

Among the worst hit by last month's IRA bomb in central Manchester were the residents of Cromford Court, the development of 70 co-ownership flats on top of the Arndale Centre, at the heart of the blast.

Since the bomb, which probably caused £300 million worth of damage, the 90 or so residents have been temporarily rehoused half a mile away in the city's "gay village", John Denny of the Northern Counties Housing Association, which manages the development, says that only two have decided they do not want to go back.

Manchester has been extraordinarily successful in attracting people back to live in the city centre. In the past ten years, more than 3,000 residents have moved into houses and flats — some new and some converted from derelict textile mills and warehouses — and the population of the central area is expected to rise to more than 10,000 by 2001.

Manchester is determined that the explosion will not dent its enthusiasm for the rediscovered delights of urban living. It has Britain's best-defined gay quarter, a vibrant club scene, a huge number of students and a council determined to turn the place into the UK's first 24-hour city. And in 2002, it hosts the Commonwealth Games.

John Glesler, the former chief executive of the Central Manchester Development Corporation, set up in 1983 and disbanded at the end of June, is convinced that the revitalisation of Manchester's city centre now has a momentum that the bomb cannot stop. "Retail rental values in the shopping district rule out

any large-scale residential development in this relatively small area," he says. "The new homes have been created at the edge of the shopping district, where residential development values are similar to those for secondary office developments. At the beginning, we didn't know whether it was possible to bring people back to the city to live. Early developments such as Wimpsey's Piccadilly Village to the north of Piccadilly station and the developer Trafford Park's Granby Village in Whitworth Street needed one pound of public money for every three of private-sector money to get them off the ground. But now most new developments are self-supporting."

This sense of optimism is in turn nurturing young entrepreneurs who cut their business teeth on the back of Manchester's youth culture, doing things such as selling posters, running clubs and record labels and who are turning their talents to property development.

Tom Blomham, 31, is the developer responsible for taking the London phenomenon of loft living to Manchester. His office, in one of his earliest developments, is a conversion of a warehouse in Ducie Street.

His Splash Holdings property empire, which has nine buildings in Liverpool and Manchester, is said to be worth about £18 million and is producing a rental income of almost £1 million a year.

Mr Blomham specialises in bringing new life to run-down city areas with projects that combine cheap office space with bars and shops. He is a dab hand at getting his hands on government inner-city grant money. Hardly a day passes without someone offering him a derelict building to take on.

Now he is tackling the Smithfield Building, which once housed the Affleck & Brown department store, a mellow stone Victorian building on Oldham Street. The building is only 200 yards from the Arndale Centre, but suffered nothing more than a few broken windows from the blast. Ironically, Affleck & Brown, once the Harrolds of the North, went into genteel decline after the Arndale Centre opened in 1972. A local landmark building, it had been empty for five years before Urban Splash took it on.

The project is costing £10 million, with £2.87 million of government funding coming through English Partnerships. When completed in three years' time, it will include 80 lofts with 31 shops on the ground floor. The first release of 22 lofts for completion in the spring of next year was launched at the beginning of May. Six had already been reserved before the bomb.

Urban Splash's Liz Williams expected reservations to slow down after the bomb. "But," she says, "I was surprised when someone walked in and reserved on the following Tuesday."

Manchester is not slavishly copying the London model of

loft living, where people buy an empty shell and allocate space to their own wishes. At the Smithfield Building, Mr Blomham has come up with what he calls "the pod": a cleverly designed unit that incorporates a bed platform fitted in back-to-back underneath. This instant "fit-out", available as an optional extra at the Smithfield Building development, is the kind of inventive idea that could travel to London.

Carol Ainscow, 38, is one of Manchester's leading gay entrepreneurs. She is the business brains behind the Mantos cafe/bar and the Paradise Factory, a nightclub in the gay village and Generation X, a bar and club in the student quarter. She also runs a record label.

Her latest venture is the conversion of 42-44 Sackville Street, a former textile warehouse about half a mile from the blast site, to 28 lofts. This was the building that defeated Harry Handelman of the Manhattan Loft Corporation two years ago. He planned two-storey glass penthouses on top of the building, but had to pull out when the costs rose.

Ms Ainscow's scheme is less grand. "We are fitting out the lofts at Sackville Street with kitchens and bathrooms, so they are ready to occupy," she says. "Selling bare shell units, as in London, will not work here. We are more practical: we don't want to be living in a building site for three years with all that noise and dust."

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## MUSICALS

Jonathan Tunick, the man who makes good musicals sound great, turns his craft to *Martin Guerre*



## VISUAL ART

All that glitters: the amazing secrets of pre-Columbian gold are revealed in a London show

## THE TIMES ARTS



## OPERA

The dream duo, Alagna and Gheorghiu, show their class in *La Traviata*



## MUSIC

Viktoria Mullova brings her fearsome fiddle technique to the City of London Festival

## Top scorer goes to war

Matt Wolf meets the orchestrator behind the notes of the West End's new mega-musical, *Martin Guerre*

When, after six years of preparation, the £3.75 million musical *Martin Guerre* opens in the West End tonight, the focus will inevitably be on the producer, Cameron Mackintosh, Alain Boublil (the co-librettist) and Claude-Michel Schönberg (the composer and co-librettist). Can the trio behind *Les Misérables* and *Miss Saigon* make it three international musical juggernauts in a row?

They, though, are not the full production story. Alongside an untested lyricist in Edward Hardy are several New York theatre veterans — including choreographer Bob Avian (*A Chorus Line*) and orchestrator Jonathan Tunick, whose name is virtually synonymous with the Broadway musical over the past quarter-century. His work on *Passion* and *A Little Night Music* can currently be heard on other London stages.

Who is the orchestrator? "You're the mysterious man who hangs around backstage in a trenchcoat," says Tunick, a Juilliard graduate and onetime conductor and clarinetist. But the fact remains that if *Martin Guerre* sounds good, Tunick will be a good part of the reason why.

The orchestrator's job, of course, is to arrange for orchestra what the composer has written. This can mean anything from writing harmonies, to underscoring, counterpoint, and full orchestral colouring. Some composers have even been known to hum the tunes of their latest creations, leaving it up to the orchestrator to provide the entire notation. The orchestrator is needed not just to match instruments to notes (and to singers, in this case musical novice Iain Glen) but to amplify the dramatic content of the music.

Seeing the show in rehearsals or run-throughs generally helps more than listening to tapes. "I associate notes not only with visual and spatial concepts," Tunick says, "but also with the emotional intensity of what's going on within the characters. I'll say, 'Is it true from what I observed that there's a big climax here that isn't noticed?' They'll say, 'Yes, we forgot to write that in.'" Tunick is primarily associ-

ated with fellow New Yorker Stephen Sondheim, whom the 58-year-old Tunick somewhat resembles in voice and appearance. But although he has orchestrated all but two of Sondheim's shows since *Company*, Tunick has also worked alongside Leonard Bernstein, Charles Strouse, Maury Yeston, and David Shire.

"My career has been anything but monogamous," he says, speaking as the inheritor to such Broadway notables as Robert Russell Bennett (*The King and I*), Don Walker (*Carousel*), and Robert Ginzler (*Gypsy*) in a profession that, Tunick estimates, numbers no more than eight full-time theatre practitioners in New York.

Until now, Tunick has not originated a show in England or participated in the British musical explosion of the past 15 years. Indeed, it seems telling that his only prior involvement with Mackintosh was on the producer's 1987 West End *Follies*, a Sondheim show Tunick first orchestrated in its 1971 Broadway premiere. And though he was asked to do *Miss Saigon*, composing commitments of his own meant that Tunick passed the job to his friend William Brohn, from whom he then inherited *Martin Guerre*.

The highly idiosyncratic, increasingly refined musical world of Sondheim — pastiche numbers one minute in *Follies*, Bernard Herrmann-style horror in *Sweeney Todd* the next — might seem stylistic years removed from the sun-drenched pop opera as it has evolved in this country.

But, says Tunick, "it took me quite some time to realise that what Claude-Michel and Cameron were after here was not a big zapped-up, electronic, knock-'em-dead sound. What they want is something truly symphonic and orchestral — a natural, full-bodied orchestral sound."

Nor, he adds, are Schönberg and Sondheim as different as one might think, even if their approaches vary. "Claude-Michel is very hands-on, while Steve writes in a studio at home — the notes tell you everything." In melodic terms, though, "Steve has that warm and expressive and lyrical side that you naturally associate



Martin Guerre, Jonathan Tunick's latest large-scale musical, opens tonight

with Claude-Michel. The directness, the sense that the music is right in your face: Steve has that, too."

Still, how natural a sound is possible in our synthesizer-driven age, where past Tunick-Sondheim triumphs such as *Company* and *Todd* have been reorchestrated for a pared-down band of nine, including sampler or synthesizer? Tunick thanks Mackintosh for hiring a 21-piece orchestra — the new Broadway revival of Sondheim's *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, which Tunick orchestrated in April, has 23 in the pit — in a theatre (the Prince Edward) whose

"acoustics, comfort, character", Tunick says, are unequalled across the Atlantic. But, he says, electronic music serves its purpose as "a coating of polyurethane over the orchestra", or as an "inner support" to bulk up what's already there. "I'll often say I want a note with no colour. I have the real strings; I just need some stuff to make them sound bigger."

Away from musicals, Tunick keeps busy in the recording studio. He just finished conducting and arranging a Christmas album with Kiri Te Kanawa and a Disney album with Barbara Hendricks; further projects with Te

Kanawa and Paul McCartney follow later this year. And he is awaiting the start of a film of Sondheim's *Into the Woods*. And what of *Martin Guerre*? When we met, he had orchestrated 32 out of 43 numbers and was racing to finish. "In bulk," he says, "this show is two musicals, so I have to write twice as many pages without having twice as much time." How is he doing? "Even I am impressed," he says, quoting Miles Gloriosus from *Forum*. "We're in remarkably good shape."

● *Martin Guerre* opens tonight at the Prince Edward Theatre, Old Compton Street, London W1 (071-447 5400)

AFTER the Three Tenors at Wembley, come the recently-weds at the Garden. Roberto Alagna and Angela Gheorghiu make their first appearance at the Royal Opera as husband and wife and the work, Verdi's *La Traviata*, could not have been better chosen.

Gheorghiu learnt her *Violetta* from Sidi when Richard Eyre's admirable production was new here, and Alagna's Alfredo was developed by Muti at La Scala. Top tutors and very willing pupils.

Gheorghiu's doomed heroine controls the stage every moment she is on it — and moments off are few. She unfolds the character piece by piece, just as she lets her hair down at the end of Act 1 to reveal the true Violetta. There is no flashiness in this scene because Violetta knows that the flash is beginning to seep from her body. Instead comes a determination to make the most of what is left, only to find that taken away with the arrival of Giorgio Germont.

Everything Gheorghiu does in this role is worked out with musical and dramatic finesse.

## Verdi's perfect couple

*La Traviata*  
Covent Garden

The control over the increasingly large voice is remarkable, so that in the last act the tone is whitened for a despairing *Addio, del passato*. Not for nothing has Eyre placed a tin bucket and a bloodied rag by her bedside.

Alagna was also at his best in these closing moments, with all his honeyed qualities back for *Pargi, o cara*. He was wise to give up the last performances of *Don Carlo* to allow his voice to take on a softer-grained timbre. He is well able to handle the dramatic outbursts when needed, but this Alfredo scores most

heavily when at his happiest (in *Lunge da lei*) or at his most distraught. The tragedy contained in Gheorghiu's *Violetta* is that she is full of self-knowledge: Alfredo's weakness is that he has none.

The senior principal on stage, Thomas Allen, was, surprisingly, singing his role for the first time. His Giorgio Germont, thin-lipped and exuding more censure than Enoch Powell on form, looked well, but Allen had to work hard at sustaining the vocal line and some lower notes.

Eyre's production carries its decaying grandeur well and is exquisitely lit: a pity the chorus could not echo the crimson glow over Flora's low society party. Simone Young in the pit was subdued at the start, then found inspiration in the last act.

This evening of glorious singing by Alagna and Gheorghiu goes out live on the big screen in the Piazza on July 15 and 16. If you feel cannot manage a whole evening, then go for the last half hour.

JOHN HIGGINS

## Don't hold your breath

*The Pearl Fishers*  
Kenwood

As his jealous but ultimately self-sacrificing baritone rival, Zurga, chief of the fishermen, Ashley Holland sang with impressive authority and fervour, while Mark Richardson was a suitably dark-toned and

menacing high priest. For me, though, the drawbacks of open-air opera seldom allow the musical content to be relished as it should.

□ In my review of *A Mass of Life* at St Paul's Cathedral last week, I omitted to mention the contribution of the Waynflete Singers. My apologies.

NOEL GOODWIN

## In cool control

Viktoria Mullova  
Drapers' Hall

ONE of the joys of the City of London Festival is the discovery of new venues. Each year a number of concerts take place in one or other of the grand livery halls. Monday's violin and piano concert with Viktoria Mullova and Piotr Anderszewski was in the gold-encrusted Drapers' Hall, a picture gallery in its own right.

Mullova, a fascinating and deeply thoughtful artist, seems almost to have distanced herself from the soulful Russian tradition to which she is an heir, just as her recently released Bach recordings — intimate accounts on a minimally chamber scale — give notice of a radical departure from the traditional full-blooded performances on which she was brought up, so her Brahms and Beethoven were presented with classical directness and simplicity.

The Brahms *A Major Sonata* was decidedly cool — Anderszewski's contribution too — with clean lines purged of Romantic excess. Impeccable intonation and firm bowing enhanced the impression of a

thoroughly modern, streamlined reading. And yet, for all the restraint, there is some vitally communicative force at work here, a force that finds its visualisation in Mullova's nematic stage presence.

The outer movements of Beethoven's *Spring Sonata*, Op 24, lacked nothing in vigour and rhythmic incisiveness, while Anderszewski shone in the *Adagio* with a beautifully spun, lyrical line, and in the *Scherzo* with its tautly controlled dialogue.

Webern's *Four Pieces*, Op 7, displayed equally admirable control. But it was in Janáček's *Sonata in A Flat Minor* that we were treated to a rare lyrical effusion in the Ballade, a movement that the composer also published separately. If only she let that warmth invade her playing more often, she would be unbeatable.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Alison Beckett on pre-Columbian treasures that are not what they seem

## Stolen gold a fair copper

When the Spanish Conquistador Francisco Pizarro met Atahualpa, the King of the Incas, in 1532, he was so dazzled by the gold litter on which the king was carried that he seized him and held him to ransom before killing him. But the gold was probably not all it seemed, as the Museum of Mankind reveals in *The Glided Image*, an exhibition of pre-Columbian golden masterpieces.

Most of these exhibits, a wealth of ornaments and figurines and jewellery spanning 1,500 years, have been hidden in the museum's reserve collections for over a century. They, too, have an alluring gleam. But scientific tests show that native goldsmiths had learnt how to turn base metal into gold — or nearly.

They had discovered many of the principal techniques of goldworking long before Europeans reached the Americas. The earliest evidence of metalworking in South America has been traced to Peru in 2000 BC and from there it spread to the northern Andes and Central America. Gold was especially favoured because it seemed to embody the qualities of the Sun.

Artistry and technical achievements, however, were rated above purity. So gold alloys known as tumbaga or guanin gold, containing up to 60 per cent copper, were used

to make better casts. These were so good that individual teeth can be seen on a two-figure pendant from Panama, 1,000 or more years old, although each face is only 11 millimetres wide.

Similarly, the decoration on the headdress of a vovite figure from Colombia looks like exquisite wire filigree work, but was actually cast, along with the rest of the piece, at least 500 years ago. The figure would have been worn round the neck of a priest of the Popayan tribe, proclaiming his control over the sources of life, his golden regalia represented the fertilising powers of the Sun.

The secret of making such objects appear 24-carat when they were nothing of the sort was revealed through scanning many of the museum's treasures with an electron microscope. A hammered ear ornament from Ecuador, about 1,000 years old, proved to be covered with a layer of pure gold only a hundredth of a millimetre thick.

This was the result of depletion gilding, a technique which entails removing copper from the surface of a gold-copper alloy. After burnishing, the surface shines like pure gold, even if the metal is far from pure beneath.

The greatest of such golden masterpieces were created by



Hammered gold figurine of a llama (Inca, 1400-1500)

the Quimbaya Indians of Colombia, whose graceful work may well have influenced the Romanian-born sculptor Brancusi, given the resemblances in style, as in the case of a lime flask in the shape of a seated female dated perhaps AD 600. Flasks were sacred objects associated with fertility rites.

The Conquistadors, of course, did not realise their mistake until their loot was melted down back home. But

their pillage was so great that little has survived to provide an insight into the life of Atahualpa and his predecessors. This exhibition is thanks to the diplomats, mining engineers and naval captains during the last century who collected wherever they travelled and passed their "curiosities" on to the British Museum.

● *Museum of Mankind*, 6 Burlington Gardens, London W1 (071-437 2224)

## Playing straight to the audience

Art Porter  
Ronnie Scott's

ANYONE who thinks of jazz musicians as self-absorbed figures playing esoteric music chiefly for themselves and a few initiates has clearly never seen Arkansas-born saxophonist Art Porter. Communication is his mission d'être. "You can play a lot of heavy stuff, but if it doesn't come across to an audience and it's not understood, why bother?"

To this end, he not only confines himself mainly to instantly accessible, stridently funky jazz with a heavy backbeat, but also resorts to surefire methods of audience-pleasing: selecting individual recipients for particularly earnest passages and playing directly to them, encouraging the more inhibited to clap along, and clipping a radio mike to his horn so that he can dance freely around the stage.

Porter's basic sound is an arresting mixture of the "sanctified saxophone" Gospel-based music of Brother Vernard Johnson and the breathy, bluesy passion of Stanley Turrentine, with a dash of R&B from Junior Walker and contemporary fusion from, say, Nelson Rangell thrown in. His opening salvo set the tone for the evening: over a heavy but shinky funk beat, Porter ran together two selections from his forthcoming album *Lay Your Hands on Me*, a fastish piece which brought notes cascading from his soprano and featured a rousing climax requiring circular breathing, and a slow-building alto number during which he traded licks with

guitarist Alan Burroughs over Brian Danze's lush keyboards and Toby Williams's surprisingly subtle drumming.

More rousing funk followed, interspersed with slow, smoochy pieces anchored by growling bass, decorated with lyrical keyboard work. Just when the formula was beginning to wear a little thin, though, Porter suddenly paid homage to a jazz great not generally associated with the uncomplicated funkier side of things: John Coltrane.

*Giant Steps* is normally an excuse for a saxophone soloist to indulge in all-out tumbling virtuosity, and Porter did initially race through the tune's familiar changes in a hectic alto rush, but an extended guitar solo re-established a lighter, rockier mood and the piece ended as an intriguing hybrid of modern jazz and tight funk.

Unadulterated showmanship swiftly reasserted itself, however, with Porter ending his set by playing soprano and alto simultaneously on a smart, bluesy strut. To judge by the immediate positive audience reaction, Porter's decision not to burden listeners with too much "heavy stuff" is a smart one.

CHRIS PARKER

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## THEATRE 1

A one-man *Hamlet* with a touch of technological genius: Robert Lepage unveils his *Elsinore*



## THEATRE 2

The Austen glut continues, with a pleasant but uncompelling *Northanger Abbey* in Greenwich

## THE TIMES ARTS



## THEATRE 3

... while in Kilburn the songs of Randy Newman form the basis of a new musical show



## YOUNG ARTS

The music of Harrison Birtwistle holds no fears for 200 pupils from London primary schools

THEATRE: Andy Lavender on three continental triumphs; plus more Jane Austen, and Randy Newman staged

# Been there, redone that

If you fancy a trip to the theatre and the local rep does not entice, why not take the train to Paris or Brussels? The two cities have recently played host to productions by three of the Western world's more iconoclastic directors: Robert Lepage, with his rendition of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*; Elizabeth LeCompte, the power behind the avant-garde American company the Wooster Group; and Ariane Mnouchkine, who runs the renowned French company 'Théâtre du Soleil'.

The latter is based at the Cartoucherie, a former army supplies base on the edge of Paris.

You should allow time to mosey around the adjoining buildings and dine on the generous meals prepared by members of the company. Established more than 30 years ago, Théâtre du Soleil has been almost as innovative in its collective ethos as it has in its theatrical styles. Nor has Mnouchkine lost the ability to create a stir.

One of the productions at the Cartoucherie is her version of Molière's *Tartuffe*. The play was first performed in 1664, when it proved so offensive to a religious faction within French society that it was proscribed by the king for five years. Mnouchkine's production is similarly prickly, for she relocates the action to a nameless but contemporary Islamic setting.

The meticulously designed set — a white stone courtyard, bounded at the rear by a large pair of iron gates opening on to a street — indicates that we are in a well-to-do Muslim household. Its head, Orgon, is a man of supreme self-assurance; but muddled vision, as is evidenced by his brotherly fondness for Tartuffe, one of the great impostors of world drama. This pious figure accordingly attempts to seduce Orgon's wife and purloin his property, before a rather summary justice is imposed.

Tartuffe is accompanied at points by six black-coated accomplices, a phalanx of fundamentalists fresh from worship. They form a disturbing presence. A Western production which takes this sort

of conceptual liberty must tread carefully. Certainly there are moments when the transplant from West to East seems soft-edged, while elsewhere the apparent excesses of Islamic orthodoxy make a fairly easy target. Nonetheless, Mnouchkine's treatment of the play into sharp relief, and presents Islam as a culture we would do well to understand a little better.

The performances are largely a treat, and Mnouchkine shows that classical stagecraft is among her repertoire of talents. Watching this production, you can understand why the French term for 'director' is *metteur en scène*, 'arranger of the stage'.

**6 You understand why the French term for 'director' is 'arranger of the stage'?**

On the subject of classical theatre, it is a strange coincidence that a clutch of esteemed experimental directors have recently turned to Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. Not to do anything as mundane as stage the play itself, you understand, but to strain it through the filter of their various preoccupations.

Peter Brook and Robert Wilson have had their go. It is now the turn of the French-Canadian Robert Lepage, whose *Elsinore*, recently seen at the French-Community National Theatre in Brussels, is a one-man show of beguiling originality.

The first rule, in fact, is that this is actually a two-man show, for Lepage uses a doppelgänger to play neat tricks with the audience's perception. The leitmotif of instability is facilitated through the production's mixed media elements — slide and video projections and a sophisticated acoustic treatment. Whenever Polonius speaks, for instance, his voice triggers tinkling chimes exactly synchronous with his vocal utterances. *Hamlet's* duel with Laertes is presented by means of a mini-camera in the handle of a rapier, its images projected on to the central screen.

With long hair and goatee beard, wearing a flowing white shirt and black trousers, Lepage's *Hamlet* is a Romantic figure. You could imagine another performer bringing different dynamics to the pro-



*Elsinore*, Robert Lepage's one-man (or two) view of *Hamlet*, is bound for Edinburgh

duction, but Lepage plays the various roles with no shortage of panache, and the show is a tour de force of theatrical intelligence and ability. If you don't manage to see it in Edinburgh this summer all is not lost, for it will tour England in the autumn.

Unfortunately there are no plans to bring to these shores the Wooster Group's latest production, Eugene O'Neill's *The Hairy Ape*, which the company presented recently as part of a mini-season at the Brussels Kaaitheater. The protagonist, Yank, is a stoker who

attempts to break free of his near-bestial circumstances. He does so here on a gridded metallic floor, its back lower than its front (a reversal of the conventional raked stage). The performers settle in choreographed arrangements within this structure, speaking their lines into strategically positioned microphones.

Willem Daloe rages impressively as Yank while demonstrating all along, in impeccably ironic fashion, that he is only pretending. Everyone knows that the Wooster Group is playful and

Post-Modern, but a dark seam of scepticism also runs through the company's work. In which case, Eugene O'Neill seems an appropriate fellow traveller. As the eight scenes of the play progress it becomes clear that this is the Wooster Group's most orthodox treatment of a text to date. Relatively speaking, of course, for the company stays true to its principle: to dismantle theatre in order to relish it.

*Tartuffe* is at the Cartoucherie (0033 1 47 24 24 08). *Elsinore* is at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh (0131 225 5756) August 12-16

THE posters outside Greenwich Theatre are advertising 'Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey*', as if to distinguish what's inside from Aeschylus, Terrence or St John Crivell's *Northanger Abbey*. But the reason is not hard to see, given the public's dispassionate craving for adaptations of the lady's work. If things go on like this, we will have to set up drying-out or aversion-therapy clinics, where demure maidens in period crinoline biff addicts over the head with cudgels while American academics read them interminable essays on the semantics of Jane Austen.

There was a *Mansfield Park* at Chichester earlier this summer, and a version of *Emma* opens at the King's head next week. And now here is Matthew Francis's adaptation and production of the only Austen novel, apart from the fragmentary *Sanditon*, that seems to have escaped the feverish attentions of the screenwriters and playwrights.

Janed-out as I am, I cannot see any overpowering reason for its existence. But I must admit that it is well enough done.

The formula followed is the one patented by David Edgar for *Nicholas Nickleby* and followed by a million adapters

## Average mileage from an Austen

Northanger Abbey Greenwich

since. Ruminative monologue merges into third-person narrative into dialogue. There is a good deal of tactful doubling. The decor is simple: Regency chairs and a huge chandelier behind filmy curtains for Bath; little but curtains for Northanger Abbey itself. And the adventures of Catherine Morland — so much more ordinary than those of the heroines of the Gothic novels she loves — briskly and lucidly unfold.

Something must be right with Francis's adaptation or with his cast, or both, because I found myself irritatingly anxious to rediscover the outcome of a tale I had not read since university. Would Sarah-Jane Holm's wonderfully

wide-eyed Catherine see through the gush of her false friend, Rebecca Saire's Isabella Thorpe? Would she grow out of her own romanticism and find real love with James Wallace's waggish but decent Henry Tilney? Would Henry's father, Michael Cronin's crusty General Tilney, bless their union?

Whether or not the tension is worth sustaining, it is successfully sustained for nearly three hours. And this is in spite rather than because of Francis's one dramatic innovation. Every now and then, the characters are transformed into figments of Catherine's girlish imagination, Mediterranean phantasms in black masks and cloaks who sweep in, hissing out hints about the evil secrets lurking in the corners and beneath the floorboards of that actually rather unexciting house, Northanger Abbey.

It is a trick that mildly amuses at first but needs to be more inventively handled, for it gets monotonous. But this is not likely to deter those who hanker for pretty costumes, graceful manners, a respect for innocence or whatever it is that makes Jane Austen so appealing these days. Good luck to them.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

## Fun for short people, too

Roll with the Punches Tricycle

IN AN interview given to Another Newspaper, and reproduced in the programme for this musical journey through his songs, Randy Newman ruefully mentions his hymn to Los Angeles, *I Love L.A.* The lyrics listed the unlovable boulevards and other dire features — "Look at these cars, look at those trees, look at that bum man, he's down on his knees" — but Angeles ignored the irony and it became the campaign song for the Los Angeles Olympics.

The creative mind uses irony at its peril, but Newman has favoured this ingredient throughout a songwriting career of 30 years and more. Possibly because of this watch-out-for-the-aftertaste character, many of his songs bear a family likeness.

The love ballads are the exception, or at least those that sound as though the words have simply their obvious meaning. These sound fairly standard, although pleasant enough. But, then, you can never be sure with Newman. A song will lull you into a half-listening state and suddenly

you realise the tone has shifted to something darker — some wildly honest perception of the harsh underside of life, love, faith, hope and charity — the subjects, along with patriotism, that are his chief concerns.

George Costigan and Belinda Lang arrange 30 of the songs in a clever sequence, smoothly directed by Chris Bond, that does not exactly tell a story but traces shifting moods along a carefully graded route. Costigan does the Randy character, she is Marie, a girl mentioned in one of the songs, and Paul J. Medford plays the bar-owner, Mikey.

Ellen Cairns's set provides a background of V of flame-coloured palm trees, with palm-leaf motifs echoed on bar stools, blinds and piano (played by Clement Ishmael). It is an essence-of-reality set, well suited to the character of

the songs themselves, which extract some quality in the world around us; eg, the inherent nastiness of *Short People* — and create a racy number from it. This was the song that famously brought him hate mail from the vertically and humorously challenged.

Try though I did, I could not detect irony in *Bless The Children of the World*, and there is one religious number that also sounds dead earnest, although most are tartly tongue in cheek. When Lang sings about love and blessings she sounds pi, so that I preferred her as Marie's decadent twin, singing *It's Money That I Love* or the nicely bizarre *You Can Leave Your Hat On*.

Costigan catches the comically world-weary stance and the good ol' boy baloney of his chosen character, and Medford's high, sweet tenor can point comedy, when playing the Devil, and place the deadly satire of the slavish ballad, *Sail Away*. A short 80 minutes, and stimulating evening.

JEREMY KINGSTON

## Double tops

### THE TIMES THEATRE CLUB

THE big theatrical news of the month is the opening of the new Cameron Mackintosh musical, *Martin Guerre*, and club members can be among the first to see it. Over the weekends from July 19 to August 31, tickets to *Martin Guerre* and *Riverdance*, as well as top hotel accommodation, are available for only £149 per person. Based on a 16th-century French legend, *Martin Guerre* stars Iain Glen, recently seen as Henry V at the RSC. After the Friday night performance, members are invited to Centre Stage, the theatre restaurant, for late-night supper and cabaret. On Saturday we've arranged tickets for another theatre phenomenon, *Riverdance*, now in its third season at the Hammersmith Apollo Theatre.

Accommodation for the weekend is at the four-star Grafton Hotel on Tottenham Court Road, ideally situated for Tube travel to the two theatres. The cost for this magnificent weekend is based on two people sharing a room, and includes top-priced tickets for both shows (or any other West End show of your choice), two-course dinner with half a bottle of wine and cabaret on Friday and two nights' accommodation with full English breakfast. To book, telephone 0800 335388

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Hilary Finch sees a junior school join the avant-garde

## Birtwistle for starters



THE music of Harrison Birtwistle may send adults running in panic, but children, of course, have no problem with it at all. On Friday at the Wimbledon Theatre, a show called *Secret Theatres* is no rerun of the eponymous South Bank spring festival. Rather it shows how more than 200 seven to 11-year-olds from southwest London have responded to impulses from Birtwistle's music and created a fully choreographed show of their own.

In that original *Secret Theatres* festival, the London Sinfonietta and the Richard Alston Dance Company had collaborated for the first time in a final dance retrospective of Birtwistle's music. Children from schools in the borough of Merton had been invited to the rehearsal and to a workshop with Birtwistle himself. He had gleefully shown them what might happen when totally different types of music met and collided: the linear and the cyclical; the flowing and the spasmodic; the repellant and the rap, polarities close to his composing heart, and just the thing to engender a composition project.

For two months, Rhian Robbins from the Richard Alston Dance Company and four musicians from the London



"Pupils worked alongside the Sinfonietta musicians"

Sinfonietta spread themselves round six primary schools. I eavesdropped at St Catherine's Middle School in SW20 on two sultry mornings when gym shoes stank and games shorts clung to restless and reluctant nine-year-old bodies. Words were thin on the ground. A slow, pentatonic cello improvisation by the Sinfonietta's Matthew Barley maddened the children into silence. Bongo drums (Richard Benjamin) and muted trombone (David Purser) stilled them. Robbins began to work through exercises into an embryonic choreography of swinging and balancing, to oscillating patterns of percussion. Now movement had to be as if underwater: supple, fluid, weightless, moving through human arches of submarine caves. Xylophone, trombone, piano, tambourine. Stillness could be dancing too. It became more like Martha Graham by the minute.

Now the musicians. Those with their own violins, record-

ers and flutes took them up; others helped themselves to percussion instruments. Four groups worked with the Sinfonietta musicians on slow ostinati, one repeated pattern superimposed over another, rhythmic variations imperceptibly filtered in. Putting different types of music together was clearly something quite new, quite alarming.

Two weeks later, the music had been developed. A fiercely rhythmic work for recorders and hand-held percussion had been born, based on short rhythmic cells separated by a complex and unpredictable pattern of rests and pauses. Five beats in a bar. Nine beats in a bar. This was distant worlds away from the narrative-inspired, texture-based composition work the children had been used to. Here there was no hiding place behind triangle or tambourine.

Robbins, who had noted this particular nine-year-old group's alacrity at responding to abstract ideas, had encouraged the children to set their flowing, aqueous movement work — now eliding with professional ease, freezing into formidable tableaux — against the sharp-edged hyperactivity of the music. Foreground and background were beginning to blur. Sparks were starting to fly in a collision of energies of which Birtwistle would have been proud.

At that point I left. There were still two more weeks to go before the curtain would rise on a new and barely imaginable meeting of secret theatres.

HILARY FINCH

● Secret Theatres is at the Wimbledon Theatre (0181-540 0362) on Friday at 7pm

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An understanding of law/finance/insurance would be helpful and a general eagerness to learn and take instruction is necessary.

The ideal candidate will have 4 years secretarial experience, preferably with shorthand and a knowledge of wordperfect. Age 25+ and the contract is offered on single status.

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MOTOR RACING: EMPIRE-BUILDING FIGUREHEAD INSPIRES RESPECT OF TEAM LEADERS BY FORGING DIRECTION OF SPORT

# Winning formula of Ecclestone's power steering

In the final part of his series on grand prix racing's future, Oliver Holt profiles a man with supreme authority



Promotions and Administration, which controls the television rights to the sport.

A huge painting hangs on the wall at the far end of Bernie Ecclestone's office. It is divided into four squares, each dominated by a different figure, one wearing a halo. The words, scrawled across it in Spanish, spell out the message, "all these people, they are all winners." There's a bit of truth in that, Ecclestone said.

He knows what it is like to have words daubed around his image, too, to have labels hung around his neck. It might be the environmental protesters in Australia who once threatened to shoot him or the investigative journalists who turn up in Formula One paddocks worldwide eager to paint him as the epitome of the seamy side of grand prix racing.

Ecclestone, after all, wields a power that is rarely seen in other sports. His long, grey bus, "Bernie's bus", with its gadgets, closed-circuit cameras and smoked-glass windows, is the hub of every race weekend. Very little of import in the Formula One world escapes its antennae.

When Andrew Chown, the man who negotiated ITV's takeover of Formula One coverage in Great Britain from 1997, was asked how the deal had been completed so quickly, he answered without hesitation. "The thing is there are no committees or anything in Formula One, are there?" he said. "It's Bernie Ecclestone and that's it. I haven't known him long but I find him incredibly decisive."

Ecclestone's list of titles, his areas of influence, go on and on: President of the Formula One Constructors' Association, Vice-president (promotions) of the International Motor Sport Federation (FIA), owner of International Sport World Communications (ISWC), President of Formula One

and success that in the past two months the leading team principals, Ron Dennis, of McLaren, Frank Williams, Flavio Briatore, of Benetton, and Luca di Montezemolo, of Ferrari, have been trying, with Ecclestone's knowledge, to thrash out a plan for a new power structure when he lets go of the reins. His rule has been so autocratic they know they will have to start afresh if he retires.

"The rest of them want to know what is going to happen when I go," Ecclestone said. "Perhaps they think they could do the job better than me, although they always say they would not want to do what I do. It will not be run the way I run it because when you have started something from scratch you find it difficult to let go of the reins. Henry Ford was always very hands-on but when he died, things changed."

"The minute I felt I could not do a good job, I would stop. I already delegate some things but only in areas I know people can handle. I'm not suggesting people cannot do what I do, but maybe they would do it a different way. Perhaps they would make even more money."

That time has not come yet, though. Ecclestone is still the single cohesive force that is a squabbling sport desperately needs to keep it from cracking under every season. "On the commercial side, if we did what the teams wanted, it would be a disaster," he said. "They would like to be able to dictate what advertising goes out where and who gets what. It

would not work at all. They get paid for performing. That is what they are good at."

"They have a lot more input than footballers or, say, tennis players at Wimbledon. With sportsmen like that, the rules are there and that's it. In Formula One, there is a lot more freedom for them to take the initiative. There are not many other sports where participants enjoy the same kind of status as our teams."

Critics of his personal fortune get short shrift. "I have read the rubbish about people saying I am a fat cat, but I take no notice. Everyone has had exactly the same opportunity to do what I have done. The only reason they have not done it is probably because they are not the real fat cats and they have been sitting on their arses."

The people, though, who have most to fear from Ecclestone in the coming



Ecclestone's control over the administration of Formula One is unparalleled in sport

## Ringmaster puzzles over race tactics

BY OLIVER HOLT

BERNIE ECCLESTONE, the Formula One ringmaster and a man who has admitted recently that he may have underestimated Damon Hill in the past, marched back to some of his old opinions yesterday when he suggested the Englishman's commanding lead in this season's world championship may have been facilitated by team orders at Williams.

Ecclestone, who was instrumental in bringing the young Canadian, Jacques Villeneuve, into Formula One as Hill's team-mate at the beginning of the season, admitted he had been surprised at the IndyCar champion's inability to match Hill during the course of the year, but claimed there might be extenuating circumstances.

"I don't know what young Villeneuve's position is within the team," Ecclestone said. "I don't know if they have team orders, but Damon is extremely relaxed and so is Villeneuve, which is unusual for someone who is being beaten by a team-mate. Perhaps he knows he is not in a position to launch a challenge. It looks like that from the outside."

"It will be interesting to see what happens once Damon has clinched the championship. Then we will see what happens with Villeneuve. His performance in the first race in Australia was so different to what has happened since. He has not lost ability. He must be getting better not worse and in Melbourne, where they both had equal machinery and neither knew the circuit, he was better than Damon."

"After that, though, it seems as though someone at Rothmans, Williams, or Renault said, you know, 'we could be in trouble here'. They would prefer to have an English world champion. I suppose. You do not want a French-Canadian suddenly coming in. It causes problems elsewhere."

Villeneuve was ordered to slow down in the latter stages of the Australian Grand Prix and cede the lead to Hill, but only because he had damaged an oil pipe in an earlier detour from the circuit and would have been forced to retire if he had kept going at the same speed. Since then, the issue of team orders at Williams has never been raised.

Last night a team spokeswoman refuted the suggestion: "There are no team orders here and there never have been. Damon and Jacques are free to race each other all out."

The confusion, in fact, may have arisen because Villeneuve set such high standards



Villeneuve: great start

on his debut and has failed to live up to them. That is likely to have more to do with lack of familiarity with circuits than with team orders.

Nevertheless, there was speculation last week that Villeneuve might be replaced next season by Heinz-Harald Frentzen, of Germany. That is unlikely to happen because Williams expect his performance to improve dramatically when he is familiar with the circuits. He trails Hill by 25 points in the race for the drivers' title, but he is in second place, ahead of Michael Schumacher.

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CRICKET: NEW COACH PREPARES FOR PAKISTAN WITH QUESTIONS UNANSWERED BY ENGLAND SERIES WIN

# Lloyd forced to repair settling cracks

MICHAEL HENDERSON



At the Trent Bridge Test match

Grim, grim, grim. The last two days of the Trent Bridge Test were tiresome as everybody waited for a disappointing match and a tame series to spin out to a predictable conclusion. The first part of England's summer work is done and they passed with respectable marks. Now the selectors have two weeks to do some cramming before they sit their Pakistan examination paper.

Beating India was no great shakes. Not even David Lloyd was prepared to proclaim the 1-0 victory from the rooftops, and that is no bad thing. The coach has said too much already and not all of it has added up. There is a limit to how much the greatest optimist can say, without making his audience shift uneasily in their seats.

India were not a doddle, but they did not stretch England as much as the host team might have expected, so it was a good series for Lloyd to settle his feet under the table. Ganguly, Prasad and Dravid emerged as good players — in Ganguly's case, more than good — Tendulkar and Srivastava excelled. England learnt less about the aptitude of the young players they introduced and they still took the one-dayers and the Test series.

Lloyd and Atherton ought not to be blinded by their success. The fact is that Pakistan have two proven new-ball bowlers, a leg spinner who is



Ganguly's tour is over as he is bowled by the jubilant Cork on the final day of the third Test at Trent Bridge yesterday. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

twice the bowler now that he was four years ago, when Pakistan won a five-match series 2-1, and an array of talented batsmen, right-handed and left. They will bowl out England twice in every Test. Can England bowl them out more cheaply?

There was premature talk last night about Nasser Hussain eventually succeeding Michael Atherton as captain, even though Atherton is settled in office and Hussain is just reacquainting himself with senior international cricket. To be a successful Test captain, of course, you need match-winning bowlers and it would be stretching a point to say that England have more than one. Even Dominic Cork has not shone brightly so far this year.

Atherton highlighted "the re-emergence of Hussain and Lewis and the bowling of Mullaney" as the things he has been happiest about so far. "Lewis has been told he will not bowl spells of more than four or five overs, so he can be a traditional strike bowler," he said. For the first Test against Pakistan, which starts at Lord's on July 25, it is likely that Darren Gough will be brought in to support Cork and Lewis and there will surely be a different spinner in the party.

One does not want to be unkind to Min Patel, but it is already clear that he lacks the ability to play at this level. His bowling in the first innings, from over the wicket into the rough, was abominable and he was no more effective yesterday. It is accepted that Phil Tufnell will never tour with England again, but so long as he promises not to goose the tea ladies or poison the groundsman's cat, he demands consideration for Lord's, the ground he knows best. Playing second-raters because they can finish a crossword puzzle does not make sense.

Then there is Hick, whose manner this summer has been puzzling. "I think he will be fine," Atherton said. "He's just had one of those series." Lloyd chirped: "I don't think there is anything to be alarmed about." Yet.

## Outsiders seek NatWest tonic

By SIMON WILDE

ON PAPER, the Britannic Assurance county championship this season is one of the most open for years. In practice, many of the so-called "contenders" privately doubt their own credentials.

They may lack an influential spin bowler, or the depth of resources to cover for injuries. So, for many teams who are out of the races for the other one-day events, the NatWest Trophy second round today is a drink in the Last Chance Saloon.

Already, the 1996 season is all but over — in terms of trophies — for Glamorgan and Nottinghamshire, who departed in the first round. Defeat today would have the same ramifications for several other counties, which has lent spice to the meetings between Essex and Durham at Chelmsford and Somerset and Gloucestershire at Taunton.

Essex began the championship brightly but have not won since May 13, when they topped the table. Now they may be reliant on a good run in a competition in which they last reached the quarter-finals in 1992. They will certainly be without Hussain and may also be missing Illott, who will test out an injured ankle this morning. Even so, it would be a surprise if they lost to a side that has not beaten a first-

class county since last September.

Somerset's priorities were also transparent once they took on the Pakistanis without Caddick, Hayhurst and Rose. All are now fit, as is Lee, whose left hand was left badly bruised by an encounter with Waqar Younis's bowling.

Gloucestershire, too, are at full strength, with their captain and key player, Walsh, recovered from a chill. They have called up Lynch to bolster their batting line-up.

Derbyshire are another county putting great store by their fixture today, when they play Kent — who are shaping

into an imposing force — at Derby. Having rested senior players for the visit of South Africa A, Derbyshire have cleared their casualty list and have happily sent Devon Malcolm on his way to a reception with Nelson Mandela.

Two counties who have no need of the Last Chance Saloon are Lancashire and Northamptonshire, whose match at Old Trafford is a prelude to their meeting in the Benson and Hedges Cup final at Lord's on Saturday. Northamptonshire are also mounting a strong challenge in the AXA Equity & Law League.

They are trying with rein-

stating Fordham — who won the man-of-the-match award in the 1992 final — as an opener after his return to form. Lancashire's hopes of being at full strength depend on Crawley's fitness test this morning. He has not played since damaging a hamstring a month ago.

Another heavyweight tie involves Warwickshire, the holders, and Surrey, who have won seven of their past nine matches in all competitions. Their only worry is Darren Bicknell's damaged left hand.

Warwickshire will need to be at their inventive best at Edgbaston to avoid a second defeat in four years in the competition and must be grateful that their injury list has shrunk. Munton is fit to captain them and Ostler, who had been doubtful with a groin strain, will also play.

Worcestershire, who beat Warwickshire in the 1994 final, appear ever more reliant on the inspiration of Moody, their captain. Even more he will be asked of him, and Hick, if Newport's thigh strain rules him out against Hampshire at New Road.

Yorkshire, who take on Middlesex at Headingley, will be hoping that Bevan has had his appetite for runs refreshed by a week's holiday in Spain. The other tie is between Leicestershire and Sussex at Grace Road.

## Cricketer to face panel after second drug test

THE Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) maintained its reputation for secrecy yesterday when a second drug test on a Sussex cricketer proved positive (Michael Henderson writes). Richard Little, the board's public relations manager, would name neither the cricketer, who is believed to be Ed Giddins, the England A pace bowler, nor the drug for "legal reasons".

Giddins was named in the *Brighton Evening Argus* after the first positive test two weeks ago, following a routine urine sample. He will be represented at his meeting with a summary panel, sometime in the next 14 days, by a representative of the Cricketers' Association, the players' professional body.

Alan Wheelhouse, the chairman of Nottinghamshire, will chair the three-man panel, which can levy a £10,000 fine or impose a four-day suspension on the player. If it finds there is a case to answer the panel will refer the matter to the TCCB discipline committee.

## LEADING FIRST-CLASS AVERAGES

### Batting

Qualification: 6 completed innings

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50
1 S Lee (Somerset)	8	11	4	670	167	97.00	2	5
2 S Ganguly (India)	9	14	8	762	136	85.25	3	4
3 G P Thorpe (Surrey)	9	17	4	1030	186	83.76	5	3
4 M G Bevan (Yorkshire)	9	17	3	1134	180	81.00	3	8
5 A J Holloake (Surrey)	9	18	4	861	128	71.75	3	4
6 A N Ayrton (Hampshire)	9	14	7	499	113	71.26	2	1
7 M A Butcher (Surrey)	9	18	2	1101	180	86.61	3	8
8 S P Titchard (Lancashire)	5	8	2	408	163	86.16	2	1
9 T M Moody (Worcestershire)	10	16	3	884	212	85.00	4	3
10 S R Tendulkar (India)	7	11	0	707	177	64.27	2	5
11 G D Lloyd (Lancashire)	7	10	1	577	241	64.11	1	3
12 H Morris (Glamorgan)	8	14	2	764	202	62.83	3	3
13 S G Law (Essex)	9	16	0	998	153	62.37	5	1
14 R T Robinson (Notts)	8	15	2	794	184	61.07	3	2
15 C J Adams (Derbyshire)	11	18	2	1031	239	60.84	3	5
16 P D Bowler (Somerset)	9	16	3	788	207	60.81	2	5
17 M D Memon (Yorkshire)	8	12	2	605	213	60.50	2	2
18 G A Gooch (Essex)	8	15	0	879	149	58.60	4	3
19 N H Fairbrother (Lancashire)	6	9	0	512	144	56.88	1	4
20 C M Wells (Derbyshire)	7	11	3	455	165	56.87	1	2

### Bowling

Qualification: 20 wickets

	O	M	R	W	Ave	Best	50	100
1 C E Ambrose (Northants)	115.3	27	307	24	12.79	6-55	4	1
2 M A Eathorn (Kent)	197.3	87	504	29	17.37	8-36	2	1
3 C A Walsh (Glouce)	199.1	59	514	26	19.76	6-57	2	—
4 D R Law (Sussex)	148	32	327	26	20.26	5-33	2	—
5 K D James (Hampshire)	171.5	36	440	21	20.95	5-74	1	—
6 A J Hynes (Derbyshire)	185	40	581	32	21.28	6-40	2	1
7 C A Conner (Hampshire)	291.4	84	807	36	22.41	5-57	1	—
8 J D Lewis (Sussex)	148	30	497	22	22.59	6-44	2	—
9 G D Rose (Somerset)	233.3	63	679	30	22.63	7-47	2	1
10 S M Pollock (Warwick)	326.4	83	840	37	22.70	6-56	1	—
11 P J Martin (Lancashire)	194	53	456	20	22.80	7-50	1	—
12 E S H Giddins (Sussex)	248.2	49	795	33	24.09	5-53	1	—
13 J A Alford (Notts)	276	90	635	26	24.42	6-51	1	—
14 M W Alleyne (Glouce)	225.1	58	619	25	24.76	5-32	2	—
15 M P Beckwith (Surrey)	307	73	920	37	24.86	6-17	2	—
16 P C R Tufnell (Middlesex)	436.2	132	950	38	25.00	5-56	4	—
17 C White (Yorkshire)	168.2	36	581	23	25.26	4-15	—	—
18 S J E Brown (Durham)	408	70	1254	53	25.56	5-34	3	—
19 G J Parsons (Leics)	250.1	71	713	28	25.46	4-31	—	—
20 M J McCague (Kent)	300.2	68	973	38	25.60	5-101	1	—

Source: TCCB/A Cricket Record

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

### CRICKET

NatWest Trophy  
Second round  
20 overs  
EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Surrey  
CHELMSFORD: Essex v Durham  
WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Hampshire  
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Sussex  
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Northamptonshire  
TAUNTON: Somerset v Gloucestershire  
DERBY: Derbyshire v Kent  
HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire v Middlesex  
Tour match  
11.0, first day of free  
SHENLEY: MCC v South Africa A

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of free)  
Trent College, Derbyshire v Yorkshire  
Shedden, Durham v Yorkshire  
Glamorgan v Leicestershire  
Southampton, Hampshire v Lancashire  
Middleton-on-Sea, Sussex v Middlesex  
Coventry and North Warwick, Warwickshire v Kent (second day of free)  
Chesham, Gloucestershire v Somerset  
MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of free)  
Thames, Oxfordshire v Cornwall  
Old Hall, Staffordshire v Buckinghamshire

### OTHER SPORT

GOLF, Scottish Open (at Carnoustie)  
SPEEDWAY, Premier League, Long Eaton v London (7.30)  
POOLE v Hull (7.30)  
TENNIS, Bristol challenger tournament

### COMPANY GOLF DAYS RESULTS

The four top scorers in the individual Stableford competitions played on the company golf days listed below now comprise the company team eligible to qualify for a regional final.

Date	Company name	Venue	Score
27 JUN	SYKES INTERNATIONAL LIMITED	HARROGATE	125
28 JUN	BATES WESTON	HORSLEY LODGE	162
28 JUN	H TURNER & SON LTD	ABBEYDALE	148
28 JUN	XEROX COMPUTER SYSTEMS (UK) LTD	CASTLETOWN	139
29 JUN	MARKET HARBOROUGH BUILDING SOCIETY	MARKET HARBOROUGH	121
29 JUN	TULLETT & TOKYO FOREX INTERNATIONAL	CAMBRIDGE	148
29 JUN	NORSON POWER LTD	CHIEFF	142
29 JUN	FORBO - CP LTD	MOUNT OSWALD	158
01 JUL	INTERFACE EUROPE LTD	PATSHULL PARK	157
01 JUL	BATA CONNECTION LTD	ENFIELD	186
01 JUL	M J ELLISON GROUP PLC	NAC COUNTRY CLUB	154
02 JUL	DELONTE & TOUCHE	ROYAL ST GEORGES	176
02 JUL	WILKINSON ROYAL ASSOCIATES	SUNNINGDALE	151
02 JUL	SUN ALLIANCE - PERSONAL LINES DIVISION	SANDWAY	168
02 JUL	BLACK PLC	HADDON HILL	154
02 JUL	CHEMICAL MANUFACTURE AND REFINING LTD	WEARSD	140
02 JUL	SNC PNEUMATICS UK LTD	MEON VALLEY	135
02 JUL	SYSTEMS UNION LTD	THE BELFRY	132
02 JUL	EDMUNDSON ELECTRICAL LTD	NOTTHAM HALL HOTEL	132
03 JUL	NORTHGATE MOTOR HOLDINGS LTD	EAGLESCIFFE	157
03 JUL	KENNEDYS	MENTWORE	149
03 JUL	INTEGRATED ENGINEERING PROJECTS	BURTON ON TRENT	149
03 JUL	LEANE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT	BUCKINGHAMSHIRE	146
03 JUL	HALIFAX PROPERTY SERVICES	WHITTINGTON HEATH	144
03 JUL	POSFORD DUVVIER	TOFT HOTEL	138
03 JUL	DELONTE & TOUCHE	MALLRIDE	133
04 JUL	BRIDGER PACKAGING	LETCWORTH	155
04 JUL	CONRAD RITBLAT	WORPLESDON	148
04 JUL	INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE	ROYAL MID SURREY	138
04 JUL	CHARLES BARNETT INTERIORS	STOKE POGES	138
05 JUL	EAGLE STAR LIFE	WHEATLEY	159

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## GOLF

## Rights to Scottish Open sold to IMG

By JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

IT TAKES an event of some importance to overshadow an in-form Colin Montgomerie when he is within a whisker of becoming the world's No 1 and a week before the Open Championship starts at Royal Lytham and St Annes. Yesterday, on the eve of this year's Scottish Open, the official confirmation of the sale of the event did just that.

Hardly had Montgomerie expressed his pleasure at the improved putting that had helped him win the Irish Open last Sunday than it was confirmed that CPMA Group, who owned the title of the Scottish Open and had staged it for the past 11 years, had sold to the International Management Group for an estimated seven figure sum, that also includes their rights to the Rugby World Cup.

Because of the alleged origins of golf in Scotland, its heritage in the game and the way that Scots spread out around the world taking word of golf with them, the Open of

though less than was once thought because the prize fund was recently reduced from £650,000 to £480,000. The event needed an injection of cash from a sponsor but one was not forthcoming. In part because the event was not enjoying the exposure on terrestrial television it once had.

"Sky does a lot of very good things," Charles Perring, of CPMA Group, said. "But sponsorship directors look at household reach, hours of live transmission and the figures, as compared with terrestrial television. Just don't stack up. We were receiving in excess of seven figures for the title at Gleneagles, which, coupled with gate money and other income, went a long way to underwriting the whole tournament. Terrestrial television exerts a stronger pull than satellite television."

Montgomerie felt that his preparations for the Open were coming along as well as they might after his second victory in eight events in Europe this year. All year, he had been disgruntled about his putting, but in the Irish Open his driving deserted him. Week in and week out, Montgomerie is as accurate a driver as Calvin Peete, of whom it was once said that he had not missed a fairway since the Korean war. In Saturday's third round, Montgomerie hit only three fairways out of 14, an almost unheard demonstration of inaccuracy.

Just when it was needed, Montgomerie's putting came to his rescue. He used the putter with which he had won in Dubai in March, one which had been taken out of his bag after his expedition to the United States in March and April, and, after an intensive practice session on the Monday of Irish Open week, Montgomerie began to hole some putts once more.

"This [Carnoustie] is a great golf course to win on," Montgomerie, who finished third behind Wayne Riley and set a new course record of 64, eight under par, last year, said. "Of the courses on the Open rota, it is the toughest and it is in fantastic condition. You have to be very confident going into Lytham if you win here or play well." Since last year's event, new back tees have been added on the 12th and 15th holes.

Tim Herron, Scottish Open from 1986 until 1994 and it reached a peak of popularity in the early Nineties when more than 100,000 spectators attended and as many as five million watched it on terrestrial television. Later, the Scottish Open was transmitted on Sky Sports, but its sponsorship and attendance dropped to 70,000 last year and viewing figures to between 600,000 and 700,000.

Since 1995, the Scottish Open has existed without a title sponsor. It lost a significant amount of money in 1995 and will do so again this year,



Montgomerie: putting well

this country is obviously an event with a greater amount of historical baggage than, say the Welsh or Dutch Open. Allan Callan, formerly a road manager with Led Zeppelin, the rock group, bought the title in the early Eighties and staged the event for one year at Haggis Castle in Glasgow, for eight successful years at Gleneagles and, last year and this, at Carnoustie.

Bell's, the whisky manufacturers, sponsored the Scottish Open from 1986 until 1994 and it reached a peak of popularity in the early Nineties when more than 100,000 spectators attended and as many as five million watched it on terrestrial television. Later, the Scottish Open was transmitted on Sky Sports, but its sponsorship and attendance dropped to 70,000 last year and viewing figures to between 600,000 and 700,000.

Since 1995, the Scottish Open has existed without a title sponsor. It lost a significant amount of money in 1995 and will do so again this year,



Clean pairs of heels: the United States Olympic synchronised swimming team prepares for the Games yesterday. Photograph: John Kuntz. Olympic dream, page 29

## FOOTBALL

## Venables offered chance to relaunch Portsmouth

By PETER BALL

TERRY VENABLES has found football, finance and friendship can sometimes be a dangerous mix. After his spell as England coach, Venables now has to decide whether he can risk the combination again after Martin Gregory, son of his old friend, Jim Gregory, asked him to become his partner at Portsmouth.

"If we can get Terry, this club would take off," Martin Gregory said yesterday. "He has been a close friend of my family for years, and his experience is second to none. He would give us the spark which would lift this club up again."

Venables will consider the offer while on holiday in Bali. In the past, Venables made little secret of his ambition to take over a football club, but his experiences at Tottenham Hotspur may make him more cautious.



Venables: expertise

Portsmouth lost £1.7 million in their last financial year, and the figure this year is expected to exceed £2 million. Venables, though, will not be expected to provide any cash. "I would be providing the finances and Terry would provide the expertise and football know-how," Martin Gregory said.

After his labours with England, and with court cases pending, Venables might re-

gard reviving Portsmouth as too demanding. Once the major power on the South Coast, winning the Football League championship in 1949 and 1950 when the Pompey Chimes, the supporters' song, rang round the country, the club's decline has mirrored that of the shipyards and of the Royal Navy. In today's game it might need a Jack Walker rather than a Martin Gregory to finance a revival.

Middlesbrough have been recruiting around the globe, but they are now in danger of losing one of their best local players. Jamie Pollock, their energetic young midfielder player, has turned down a new

contract and was yesterday having talks with Aston Villa and Leeds United, Villa emerging as slight favourites for his signature. Leeds may also be unlucky in their attempt to sign Trevor Sinclair from Queens Park Rangers — but so may Tottenham Sheffield Wednesday and Blackburn Rovers. Yesterday Ray Wilkins, the Rangers manager, insisted that rumours of Sinclair's imminent departure are inaccurate. "Reports that Trevor is on his way couldn't be further from the truth," Wilkins said. "I've had assurances from everyone connected to the club that we don't need to sell Trevor, so therefore, he's staying."

Middlesbrough are also having to hold fire on completing the signing of Mikkel Beck, the Danish forward. Beck is training with them after a preliminary hearing in a German court accepted his plea that he is a free agent, but the club cannot sign him until the decision is ratified. They hope to do so in time for him to go on their tour of Malaysia on July 23.

Dimitar Penev, the Bulgarian coach, yesterday paid the price for his country's failure to reach the latter stages of the European championship when he was dismissed.

## RUGBY UNION

## Richards to opt out of the force

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

DEAN RICHARDS, 33 tomorrow, has turned his temporary absence from the police force into a permanent one. Richards, the Leicester and England No 8, began a sabbatical last year but has now decided to leave the force.

The decision is the result of rugby union turning professional, which has opened up so many unlooked-for opportunities. Earlier this year, Peter Wheeler, the Leicester chief executive, hinted that a role would be found for Richards at Welford Road when he concludes his playing career.

Richards captains Leicester again next season and may yet add to his 48 England appearances but, such is his popularity in Leicestershire that the Tigers will surely seek to capitalise on his reputation, possibly in a managerial capacity, when Richards decides to stop playing. Leicester hope to open their season with a four-club tournament over the August bank holiday weekend. They have invited Agen and Cardiff to a two-day event, and expect that Boroughmuir will make up the quarter, playing games on the Sunday and Monday to avoid Leicester City's FA Carling Premiership match on Saturday, August 24.

## Taylor supports FA's disciplinary change

FOOTBALL'S disciplinary structure may be streamlined, if an experiment in the Coca-Cola Cup this season proves successful. The full Football Association Council will this week rubber-stamp a plan that will see red and yellow card punishment — apart from violent conduct offences — restricted to the competition in question. If the experiment is judged a success, all leading league and cup competitions from 1997-98 will have their own self-contained disciplinary procedure.

Significantly, the idea has the full support of Gordon Taylor, chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association, the players' union, who said yesterday: "The way the disciplinary system has built up over the years and the way cautions have increased, the procedure had got very cumbersome. There was a need to revamp it."

## Snelling fills new post

SWIMMING: Deryk Snelling, 63, a Lancastrian, who has coached successfully in Canada since 1967, is returning to become the first British national performance director. Snelling, a coach with the Canada team since the 1972 Olympic Games, will start his four-year contract in October, with the task of producing a long-term national team development plan.

## Boost for Beecher

TENNIS: Colin Beecher gave British tennis a post-Wimbledon boost at the Bristol Challenger Trophy yesterday. The 25-year-old from Bromley in Kent, a second-round loser at the All England Club, beat the No 5 seed, Noam Behr, of Israel. But Martin Lee, of Worthing, the world No 1 junior, went down to Lars Rehmann, of Germany, ranked No 318 — 850 places above him.

## Sicily wins Games

STUDENT SPORT: Sicily was awarded the 1997 World Student Games by the International University Sports Federation (Fisu), in Brussels yesterday. Primo Nebiolo, the president of Fisu, who is also the president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation, said: "A well-organised event [from August 20-30] would also help Italy's hopes of hosting the 2004 Olympic Games in Rome."

## Edwards breaks leg

RUGBY LEAGUE: Diccon Edwards, the Castleford wing, could be out for the rest of the Super League season with a broken leg. The 23-year-old former England Under-21 and Wales A rugby union player fractured a fibula in Castleford's 26-25 defeat by Wigan at Central Park on Friday night. Edwards has made 12 first-team appearances for the Wheldon Road club.

## JUDO

## Adams aims at elusive gold

By JOHN GOODBODY

NEIL ADAMS is confident, but not complacent, that the Great Britain judo squad will maintain the sport's remarkable Olympic record in Atlanta. Forty fighters have represented Britain over the last six Games, winning a total of 15 medals, a record pro rata that no other sport can match.

Adams, the chief coach for Atlanta, said: "I will be happy with three medals, but we could get several more. There is tremendous strength in the depth in the squad. At the world championships last year everything went wrong that could have gone right and only one member of the team, Sharon Rendle, reached the podium."

However, at the European championships in May, Britain took seven medals, with two competitors, Rendle, a featherweight, and Danny Kingston, a lightweight, collecting titles.

The pair are in the squad of 13, which also includes light-

heavyweight Ray Stevens and lightweight Nicola Fairbrother, who both took silver medals in Barcelona.

Adams said: "The Olympics do make dreams come true. It is a very special event, which can face people. Not all the favourites come through and you never know what is going to happen."

Despite their fine record, the British squad has never won a gold medal, with Adams, himself, losing the finals in 1980 and 1984. "I hope we can finally get the title. It is the one thing that never happened to me. I still have nightmares about it and I would do anything for one of this team to win."

Since Adams, Stevens has come closest of the men to succeed. In 1992, he overcame a severe knee injury to reach the final. "I aim to be in the same frame of mind that I was in Barcelona," Stevens has a rare combination of technical expertise and amazing athleticism. In a competition to find

Britain's fittest man, he was third behind Colin Jackson, the 110 metres hurdles world record holder, and a PT instructor in the Royal Marines, despite the disadvantage of weighing 15st. Stevens even beat Jackson in the agility sprint event. He has also run a half-marathon in 1hr 18min and regularly does 100 consecutive press-ups in training.

Kingston, his club-mate at The Budokwai in London, is the most dangerous of all competitors, a man fulfilling his potential in the year of the Games. "However, a European title does not guarantee an Olympic title. I have had to come back to earth very quickly and restart training," he said.

## RIFLE SHOOTING

## Sultan's marksman on target

By OUR SHOOTING CORRESPONDENT

STAFF Sergeant Awadh Bin Rashid Al Batashi, one of the crack marksmen in the Sultan of Oman's forces, knew when he went to the Bisley services rifle meeting that opposition 'would be tough.'

But nobody expected that he would have to "eliminate" 27 of the British and Canadian forces to win the Bisley Buller Trophy. The trophy is a little eccentric because it was presented in 1963 by the late Major Tom Anstey in memory of an old push-pull locomotive which used to carry people into Bisley Camp from 1890 until 1952.

There were 28 scores of fifty, but an immediate tie-breaker reduced the number to nine, and the next test left three to

try again, with ten deliberate shots at snaphooting targets 300 yards away. Twice, they all put ten shots into the bullseye, before Captain John Anderson, an Army international shooter, dropped one point and fell out.

The Sultan's man was then up against Marine Jason Waller, who on Sunday had won the Queen's Medal as champion shot of the Royal Navy and

Royal Marines. The pair stayed equal over another two sets of ten shots, all in the bullseye, but Awadh won with his seventeenth bullseye when Waller's seventeenth shot went into the inner ring, one point behind.

The contest forms part of the National Rifle Association service rifle championship.

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## ATHLETICS

# Morceli's claim to top billing in doubt

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT IN NICE

NOUREDDINE MORCELI, unbeaten at 1,500 metres for four years, may be heading for a fall in the Olympic Games. So says Anthony Whiteman, Britain's improving No 1 at the distance, who was asked by a friend recently to assist with an accumulator bet and name five banker winners in Atlanta. Morceli was not among Whiteman's selections.



Morceli: under pressure

judging by their form in the Stockholm grand prix on Monday, are ready to storm Morceli's castle. Had Hilham El Guerrouj run 0.10sec quicker than his 3min 29.59sec in Stockholm, he would have displaced Morceli as the fastest 1,500 metres runner of the year.

El Guerrouj, 21, from Morocco, who is five years' Morceli's junior, moved above Steve Ovett and Sebastian Coe, in the all-time rankings on the very night that the BBC's *Clash of the Titans* programme recalled the rivalry between the two Britons, their Olympic triumphs and world records.

El Guerrouj also jumped ahead of Steve Cram to leave only Morceli and Said Aouita who have run faster. Right behind him was Venuste Niyongabo, from Burundi,

with a personal best 3min 30.09sec. All three — Morceli, El Guerrouj and Niyongabo — are here for the Nice grand prix this evening, but Morceli is entered for the 2,000 metres while El Guerrouj and Niyongabo are scheduled for the 1,500 metres.

Whiteman, who has won European indoor silver, and European Cup bronze medals this season, believes Morceli's positioning is deliberate. "Morceli has not raced anyone yet and it is obvious he is keeping away from them," he said. "That is why I think he is suspect for the Olympics."

"Last year was El Guerrouj's first as a serious contender and now he is a year older and stronger. I think he is going to run Morceli close. Morceli had problems in Barcelona because he wasn't used to running with that many people around him."

So Whiteman's five Olympic bankers are Frankie Fredericks (100 metres), Johnson (400 metres), Sonia O'Sullivan (5,000 metres), Bubka (pole vault) and the United States 4x400m relay team. Morceli has been left out not, Whiteman insisted, because he thinks he has a chance, though he is a young man whose assuredness is a feature of his running and his personality. "My aim is to be first European," Whiteman said.

Whiteman has set three personal bests this season, the latest 3min 47.9sec. He hopes to improve again this evening, though his first task when he arrived here yesterday was to get into the race. He is marked down for the 2,000 metres.

The sweeping bends in the stadium here facilitate fast times and it was on this track that Cram ran a 1,500 metres world record in 1985 and Morceli set the present mark of 3min 27.37sec last year. Robert Bertolo, the meeting director, has set a feat of middle-distance running on the table tonight, all on the second-smallest grand prix budget.

Only São Paulo has less to spend. Bertolo has Wilson Kipketer in the 800 metres after running the fastest time in eight years in Oslo on Friday and O'Sullivan, unbeaten this season in the 3,000 metres. Donovan Bailey against Linford Christie in the 100 metres is in Bertolo's view, merely a sideshow.



Moncassin, left, and Jalabert, who was later to withdraw from the race, grit their teeth for the climb ahead yesterday

## Zabel propelled by team spirit as Tour continues to take its toll

BY PETER BRYAN

TO THE relief of the riders, sunshine yesterday replaced the snow, sleet and rain that had helped to restrict the first nine days of the Tour de France as the race moved out of Italy and back into the host country.

Ahead of the 153 survivors from the original line-up of 198 was the 208-kilometre run from Turin to Gap, across terrain that came as a relief from the earlier incursion into the Alps, but still sufficiently troublesome to offer the possibility of significant changes overall.

Beyond the stage end was the bonus of a rest day, the only one during 22 days of competition. The prospect of rest and rehabilitation was as much the spur for the riders delegated to burn themselves out for their team leaders.

Many of the anticipated strong men had been shed or embarrassed earlier on and yesterday was not without its departures. Laurent Jalabert, fourth in the Tour last year

and the hero of France after his early-season domination of European races, capitulated after covering a third of the course.

Physically exhausted and knowing that, in 31st place overall, he had no chance of success, Jalabert will now concentrate on the Olympic road race at the end of the month.

In a stage of changing fortunes it was Erik Zabel, the rider from the former East Germany, who triumphed with a finishing burst that left the fearless sprinter,

Djamolidine Abdoujaparov, in his slipstream.

Yet 27 kilometres from the finish the race looked likely to produce Rolf Sørensen, of Denmark, as the winner after he broke clear from a small pack and, at times, was riding at 35mph.

He held his lead into the final kilometre: one moment he was eight seconds ahead of the furiously chasing bunch on the run-in and the next, it seemed, he was absorbed by the peloton.

Throughout the day the overall leader, Bjarne Riis,

who had swapped his red-and-white Danish national champion's jersey for the *maillot jaune*, had remained hidden among the peloton with his German Telekom team protecting his overall race lead of 40 seconds.

Yet it was the unselfish Riis who went to the front as his compatriot, Sørensen, was reeled in within sight of the line to keep the pace high for Zabel to come off his wheel in a winning sprint.

"This is an extraordinary Tour for me," Riis said. "Our team tactics were perfect today."

Chris Boardman survived the climbs yesterday and finished one minute and six seconds behind Zabel, whose stage victory also gave him the green jersey as points leader from the Briton's team colleague, Frederic Moncassin. Miguel Indurain, five times a winner of the Tour, conserved his energies — and retained eighth place overall — in the resumption of mountain hostilities tomorrow between Gap and Valence.

### RESULTS

**TENTH STAGE** (Turin to Gap, 129 miles): 1. E. Zabel (Ger), 2. B. Riis (Den), 3. C. Boardman (GB), 4. F. Moncassin (Ger), 5. M. Indurain (Sp), 6. A. Chazot (Sp), 7. P. Bartsch (Ger), 8. A. Chazot (Sp), 9. V. Bono (Sp), 10. L. Jalabert (Sp), 11. P. Bartsch (Ger), 12. L. Jalabert (Sp), 13. P. Bartsch (Ger), 14. R. Sørensen (Den), 15. P. Bartsch (Ger), 16. R. Sørensen (Den), 17. P. Bartsch (Ger), 18. R. Sørensen (Den), 19. P. Bartsch (Ger), 20. R. Sørensen (Den), 21. P. Bartsch (Ger), 22. R. Sørensen (Den), 23. P. Bartsch (Ger), 24. R. Sørensen (Den), 25. P. Bartsch (Ger), 26. R. Sørensen (Den), 27. P. Bartsch (Ger), 28. R. Sørensen (Den), 29. P. Bartsch (Ger), 30. R. Sørensen (Den), 31. P. Bartsch (Ger), 32. R. Sørensen (Den), 33. P. Bartsch (Ger), 34. R. Sørensen (Den), 35. P. Bartsch (Ger), 36. R. Sørensen (Den), 37. P. Bartsch (Ger), 38. R. Sørensen (Den), 39. P. Bartsch (Ger), 40. R. Sørensen (Den), 41. P. Bartsch (Ger), 42. R. Sørensen (Den), 43. P. Bartsch (Ger), 44. R. 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# Along lesson in how to make documentaries

Halfway through the immensely long *True Stories* (Channel 4), it was necessary to remember to be surprised by it. Oh yes, *Gordonstoun* — known to all as a spartan institution aspiring to the comfort of Dorchester Hall in Dickens. Remember that Light Programme favourite that began "Hello Muddah, Hello Faddah"? Well, in the national imagination it was like that. An intimate documentary about the place sounded a great idea: open an inner cupboard and you would find a big-eyed royal shivering tearfully inside, hands clasped to a bowl of rapid, face composed to a look of martyrdom.

Penny Woolcock's film last night was therefore an eye-opener. For one thing, the new liberal regime under the headmaster Mark Poyer may still offer the delights of belly-flopping into frozen locks, but the word "voluntary" has been

thoughtfully attached. For another, softies don't go to Gordonstoun in the first place. While it was never clear whether Gordonstoun pupils gained much in the way of academic distinction, it was quite clear last night that snivelling was not the norm. Woolcock's access to pupils such as Camilla and William (13), Ailsa (15), and assorted sixth-formers did not encourage them to weep for the camera, or phone home with piteous pleadings. Instead they cheerfully kicked their rule-breaking and got on with it. When William was kicked in the face by a bullying fifth-former, amazingly he didn't take it personally.

The habit of doing naughty things for the camera got a bit tiresome, ultimately, and gave a surely unintentional impression that the rules didn't matter very much. Boys on compulsory morning walks bunched off in full view of the camera; girls passed notes in

detention; Ailsa (under threat of suspension for smoking) announced "I'm off for a fag"; a sixth-former explained how he forged tickets to obtain more drink dishonestly at Saturday night socials. A "colour bearer" (or prefect) called on duty involved a boy in illegal smuggling of beer, and made a big point of denying it ironically. The intelligence of Woolcock's film was that, just as Sandy said "I of course had nothing whatever to do with this", you saw what a natural politician he was. And quick-as-a-flash Woolcock asked: "Sandy, what do you want to study at university?" "Politics," came the reply.

Being more than two hours long, *Gordonstoun* had time for anecdote and incident, and familiarised us with such school argot as "ben-tran-sis" (clever sixth-form entrants) and "CB" (prefect). The Gordonstoun

## REVIEW



Lynne Truss

lick — which might be painful — is a special head-tossing performed by girls with long floppy hair and no fringe they do a special confident walk, too, of a kind usually associated with well-armed bounty-hunters entering saloons. But the main point, I think, was to show the school in transition under a firm, persuasive, charismatic head who never actually said "hallelujah" but kept

it just under, like Tony Blair. What should be done about Justin, for example — the bully who kicked little William's face? The CBs thought he should be expelled; Poyer ordained otherwise. The housemaster investigated the incident and amazingly most of the younger boys felt sorry for Justin, understanding where his violence came from. They forgave him promptly, and before long the housemaster was saying "the poor lad in question" with reference not to the kicked, but the kicker. Justin promised to reform, and the boys were congratulated on their compassion.

Good documentaries make it look simple. Once, on an awards panel, I was shocked to hear fellow judges say the *Cutting Edge* film *The Club* was "easy". *Gordonstoun* gave a good start to the new series of *True Stories*; its only drawback was that the morning after, all its viewers will feel they

have been through Gordonstoun and out the other end. Personally, I have practised the walk and the flick already, but don't try both at once, or you'll fall over.

Elsewhere last night, things hotted up in *Murder One* (BBC2), with an unexpected turn of events: Richard Cross is mad. A worrying rumour has belatedly reached me that *Murder One* was made up as it went along, with nobody knowing at the outset who killed Jessica Costello. Can this be true? Certainly Richard Cross's strange behaviour in the witness box last night (with wealth comes responsibility. Now I want you to put for me) smacks of frantic straw-grasping in the storyline department. In Victorian sensational novels, it was often the only way to resolve a plot, of course. "You are MAD!" "I'm not!" "Yes you are!" At which point the madman would conveniently hurt

himself off a bridge, to prove it. Back on Channel 4, Susan Tully presented *Genderquake*, which was all right. If women are getting most of the employment opportunities, would men be willing to take the same jobs — as dinner ladies and chambermaids? Well, here's a surprise: they wouldn't. Three Merseysiders had a go, but preferred to stay on the dole. "It's about money, sex and power," said Tully with relish, as she inaugurated her post-*EastEnders* career and to be honest, it was just nice to see her having such a good time.

Finally, Doug Naylor's *The 100ers* was back (TV) — the Clive Francis sitcom about agents littered with knowing showbiz references ("You've got worse shakes than *NYPD Blue*"), but likeable for its superior wisecracks nevertheless. Last night's plot involved a freeze-dried dead cat but was still funny. Reluctant praise doesn't come any higher.

## BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (18836) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceelex) (49107) 8.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceelex) (384935)

9.20 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (686867) 9.50 Wildlife on One: Barrels of Crude and Wastewater (s) (Ceelex) (s) (724054)

10.20 FILM: Murder: Ahey! (1964) with Margaret Rutherford and Lionel Jeffries. Rutherford's final appearance as Miss Marple. Directed by George Pollock (22802855)

12.00 News (Ceelex) (2547671) 12.05pm The Noble Guide: To Love (2282229)

12.35 Neighbours (Ceelex) (s) (9038107) 1.00 News (Ceelex) (42394)

1.30 Regional News and weather (12656107) 1.40 Even More of Glynis Christian's Entertaining Microwaves (12689671) 1.55 Holiday Outings (s) (47269300)

2.00 FILM: Scaramouche (1952) starring Stewart Granger and Eleanor Parker. Swashbuckling adventure directed by George Sidney (418283)

3.55 Cricket: Live coverage of one of the NatWest Trophy second round matches (353300)

5.35 Neighbours (s) (Ceelex) (s) (378590) 6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceelex) and weather (403)

6.30 Regional News magazines (855) 7.00 Small Talk: Ronnie Corbett hosts the show in which adults must second-guess the thoughts of children (9213)

7.30 Mastermind: Questionmaster Magnus Magnusson puts four more contenders under the spotlight (Ceelex) (s) (869)

8.00 FILM: Far and Away (1992) Romantic adventure starring Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman. At the end of the 19th century a poor Irish tenant farmer and the beautiful daughter of a wealthy landowner head for the New World to begin a new life. Directed by Ron Howard. Continues after the news (Ceelex) (s) (6403)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceelex) regional news and weather (2758)

9.30 FILM: Far and Away continued and concluded (3041836)

10.45 Olympic Diaries: Georgia on My Mind. Seven of Britain's top Olympic contenders record their preparations for the big event in video diaries. It is the middle of winter when 16-year-old gymnast Anna Friel makes a lonely journey to complete a new floor routine in Paris; rowers Steven Redgrave and Matthew Pinsel are surprised by a radical coaching change; and horsewoman Karen Dixon finds herself among the New Year Honours (497768)

11.45 Cricket: Tony Lewis introduces highlights from one of the NatWest Trophy matches (496952)

12.45 FILM: Patrick (1978) with Susan Penhaligon and Robert Helmann. A nurse suspects that a comatose patient, whose mother died with her lover in a freak accident, has psychokinetic powers. Directed by Richard Franklin (220879)

2.35am Weather (9535530)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCode. The number of Video PlusCode numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder manually with a VideoPlus+ "handset". Put in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. VideoPlus+ is a trademark of Gemstar Development Ltd.

## BBC2

6.00am Open University: Maths (6129671) 6.25 Open University: Maths (6129671) and the Art of the Past (8733687)

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (4309128) 7.30 Smurfs' Adventures (9410774) 7.55 Activ-8 (s) (Ceelex) (s) (5160213) 8.20 The Record (s) (6041035) 8.30 The Flight (s) (s) (6041035) 8.40 Playdays (s) (s) (6736107)

10.25 Cricket: Live coverage of one of today's NatWest Trophy second round matches (7654377)

12.45pm Working Lunch (s) (612720)

1.15 Melvin and Maureen's Music-a-Grains (s) (s) (72348229)

1.25 Cricket: Further live coverage of one of the second round NatWest Trophy matches (s) including 3.00 News, regional news and weather (36524671)

3.55 News and weather (2077720) 4.00 Cartoon (7703958) 4.05 Funnybones (s) (7702229) 4.10 Run the Risk (s) (5110774) 4.30 Cartoon Critics (Ceelex) (s) (652) 5.00 Newsround (Ceelex) (9000232) 5.10 Earthshakes (Ceelex) (s) (7376478)

5.35 Cricket: Live coverage of one of today's second round NatWest Trophy matches. NB: Subsequent programmes are subject to delay and alteration. (50210300)

7.30 That Thing Thing. The tears, the tension and the trauma of the Highland Dance World Championships are revealed in this documentary following the fortunes of Canadian champion Colleen Rutherford and young Scottish hopeful Tony Cargill (s) (381)

8.00 School: A Levels Aren't For the Likes of Us (BBC2, 8.30pm) (not Scotland)

A cookery series from Scotland entreats us to forget about supermarket prepackaging and embrace fresh food and fresh ideas. The food is local produce and the ideas are supplied by Nick Nairn, a personable restaurateur and the youngest chef in Scotland to be awarded a Michelin star. For his first menu Nairn visits Tayside, where he goes fishing for trout, goes on a nocturnal rabbit shoot and picks raspberries growing wild. Once he has gathered the ingredients, Nairn does not bring about cooking, he says, is about time and speed and pressure and he puts his hands where his mouth is, helped, it must be said, by some very slick editing. The fastest shorthand in the world would be hard pressed to get Nairn's recipes down but there is, of course, an accompanying book.

Wild Harvest With Nick Nairn (BBC2, 8.30pm) (not Scotland)

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Gunspeak USA: Arms Unlimited (Channel 4, 9.00pm)

Debate is joined in the state of Michigan over the American's historic right to bear arms. On one side are Christian fundamentalists, such as a Baptist minister and gun dealer Norman Olson. He is the founder of the Michigan militia, a group of armed civilians, and says he is defending an ancient freedom. He is backed by the National Rifle Association, which claims to be America's oldest civil liberties body. The main opposition comes from the police, who contend that arming everybody is not the answer to gun violence. As the arguments go back and forth, the Oklahoma bombing, in which militia members are implicated, turns opinion with clarity and balance. The film illuminates a debate which is both peculiarly American and, post-Dunblane, has echoes nearer to home. Peter Waymark

10.30 Newsnight (Ceelex) (458519) 11.15 Murder: One Chapter 18. The legal drama that follows a high-profile murder case both in and out of the courtroom (s) (Ceelex) (s) (437942)

12.05am The Midnight Hour with Andrew Neil (9204275)

12.30-6.00 The Learning Zone

## CHOICE

School: A Levels Aren't For the Likes of Us (BBC2, 8.30pm)

It is more than a decade since Richard Denton made memorably contrasting documentaries about schools in the state and private sectors. His new series, which promises to maintain the standard, was filmed over a year at Francis Combe School in Watford. It is a comprehensive struggling for survival. With the number of children in the area falling, one school will have to close and Francis Combe already has stiff competition. The school is in a bit of a key but of 600 pupils only a handful go on to take A-levels and the pass rate is modest. The first of Denton's six films follows an A-level set during the final weeks up to the exam. Francis Combe has its troubles but the image here is of bright and determined children and teachers dedicated almost beyond the cause of duty.

Survival Special: Creatures of the Magic Water (TV, 8.00pm)

The Amazonian rainforest of north Brazil is an inhospitable spot but just the stuff of which wildlife documentaries are made. Nick Gordon, who has been filming in the region for eight years, does not disappoint. He even has a positive message. Far from being a warning about endangered species, *Creatures of the Magic Water* celebrates animals which were close to extinction but are thriving again. Pre-eminent is the jaguar, once killed for its skin, but now left alone to pad through the forest and take to the water in search of food. Hunters also threatened the existence of the giant Brazilian otter and the Amazonian manatee, a gentle and mournful mammal here filmed for the first time. But arguably the best footage is of turtles laying their eggs on sandbanks and of vultures swooping down to gorge on them.

Wild Harvest With Nick Nairn (BBC2, 8.30pm) (not Scotland)

A cookery series from Scotland entreats us to forget about supermarket prepackaging and embrace fresh food and fresh ideas. The food is local produce and the ideas are supplied by Nick Nairn, a personable restaurateur and the youngest chef in Scotland to be awarded a Michelin star. For his first menu Nairn visits Tayside, where he goes fishing for trout, goes on a nocturnal rabbit shoot and picks raspberries growing wild. Once he has gathered the ingredients, Nairn does not bring about cooking, he says, is about time and speed and pressure and he puts his hands where his mouth is, helped, it must be said, by some very slick editing. The fastest shorthand in the world would be hard pressed to get Nairn's recipes down but there is, of course, an accompanying book.

Gunspeak USA: Arms Unlimited (Channel 4, 9.00pm)

Debate is joined in the state of Michigan over the American's historic right to bear arms. On one side are Christian fundamentalists, such as a Baptist minister and gun dealer Norman Olson. He is the founder of the Michigan militia, a group of armed civilians, and says he is defending an ancient freedom. He is backed by the National Rifle Association, which claims to be America's oldest civil liberties body. The main opposition comes from the police, who contend that arming everybody is not the answer to gun violence. As the arguments go back and forth, the Oklahoma bombing, in which militia members are implicated, turns opinion with clarity and balance. The film illuminates a debate which is both peculiarly American and, post-Dunblane, has echoes nearer to home. Peter Waymark

10.30 Newsnight (Ceelex) (458519) 11.15 Murder: One Chapter 18. The legal drama that follows a high-profile murder case both in and out of the courtroom (s) (Ceelex) (s) (437942)

12.05am The Midnight Hour with Andrew Neil (9204275)

12.30-6.00 The Learning Zone

## GMTV

6.00am GMTV (1600861) 9.25 The Real Ghostbusters (s) (694958) 9.50 Hope and Gloria (7335652)

10.20 News (Telex) (9711294) 10.25 Regional News (Telex) (9710555)

10.30 FILM: Matters of the Heart (1990) Melodrama with Jane Seymour. Directed by Michael Rhodes (86328923)

12.20pm Regional News (253855) 12.30 News (Telex) (9120132)

12.55 Shortland Street (s) (9032523) 1.25 Coronation Street (s) (Telex) (5362229) 2.00 Home and Away (Telex) (s) (61932768)

2.25 FILM: Agatha Christie's Dead Man's Folly (1986). Murder mystery with Peter Ustinov. Directed by Clive Donner. Concludes tomorrow (7132497)

3.20 News (Telex) 3.25 Regional News (Telex) (9625887)

3.30 Alphabet Castle (s) (s) 3.40 Wizards (s) 3.50 Brit. All Stars' Magic Adventures of Miffie (s) (3721300) 4.05 Garfield and Friends (s) 4.15 Hurricanes (s) (Telex) (s) (5024923) 4.40 Are You Afraid of the Dark? (Telex) (2787318)

5.10 A Country Practice (s) (7886887) 5.40 News and weather (Telex) (71213) 6.00 Home and Away (s) (Telex) (s) (278107)

6.25 HTV News (Telex) (429720) (78887)

7.00 The Midas Touch. Game show hosted by Bradley Walsh (Telex) (s) (4381)

7.30 Coronation Street. Sally is irritable and takes her frustrations out on Ross (Telex) (107)

8.00 Survival Special: Creatures of the Magic Water (Telex) (s) (8671)

8.00 Trial: The Price of Passion. Part 2 of the mini-series about the personal and professional dilemmas of an ambitious US lawyer (Telex) (s) (5107) Concludes after the news.

10.00 News at Ten (Telex) (76889)

10.30 Regional News (Telex) (958861)

10.40 Trial: The Price of Passion. Conclusion (Telex) (s) (442229)

11.25 FILM: Shadows of the Past with Erika Anderson, Nicholas Campbell and Richard Barry. Suffering from amnesia after a near fatal accident, a woman is horrified to learn of her connections with an international criminal. Directed by Gabriel Pellerin (909478)

1.10 God's Gift (4613665) 2.15 Cyber Cafe (35072) 2.45 Dear Dick (475459) 3.45 Bushell on the Box (s) (30527) 4.15 Music Box Profiles (2068776) 4.30 The Place... the Place (s) (58904)

5.00 Cover Story (s) (78409)

5.30 Morning News (28189)

## As HTV West except:

6.25pm-7.00 Wales Tonight (429720)

## WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except

10.30am Danielle Steel's Jewels (77229) 12.00pm World of Wonder (3801590) 12.55 Coronation Street (9032523)

1.25-1.55 Cross Wits (61885584) 1.55 Home and Away (92179652) 2.55 Brief Encounters (61935855) 2.55-3.20 A Country Practice (7798661) 3.10-3.40 Home and Away (7986887) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (36590)

## CENTRAL

As HTV West except

10.30am Danielle Steel's Jewels (77229) 12.00pm World of Wonder (3801590) 12.55 Home and Away (9032523)

1.25 Cross Wits. Cryptic crossword game presented by Tom O'Connor (61885584) 1.55 A Country Practice (78797381) 2.50 The Ultimate Shopping Guide. Lorraine Kelly visits the Lakeside, Thurrock, complex (61885584) 2.50-3.20 Women Talking (8804958) 3.10-3.40 Shortland Street (7986887) 6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather (429720)

11.25 Phoenix (162126) 12.25am Bushell on the Box (9208277) 1.25 God's Gift (8991430) 1.55 Dear Nick (4177782) 2.55 In Focus (7796633) 3.40 Jobfitter (720782) 5.20 Asian Eye (1454966)

## MICROBURN

As HTV West except

10.30 A Woman Named Jackie (86329923) 12.55pm Coronation Street (9032523) 1.25 Home and Away (61885584) 1.55 Shortland Street (78797381) 2.50 Cooking at the Academy (61885584) 2.50-3.20 Serve You Right Live (9804958) 5.10 Home and Away (7986887) 5.37-5.40 Three Minutes — Freescreen (613768) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (440213) 6.35 Animal Country (524403) 7.05-7.30 The Pier (853774) 8.00am Freescreen (78409)

8.30-8.55 Shirley and George (8730590) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (38045) 8.00 Film: On Top of Old Smoky (38045) 10.05 The Cowboy and the Lady (80225842) 11.45 The Magic Fluke (1623923) 12.00 House to House (25942) 12.00pm Waterways (53213) 1.00 Slot Meltdown (31132) 1.30 On the Road to the Islands (92285453) 1.55 Channel 4 Racing From Newmarket (71711978) 4.30 GenGedrag (720) 5.00 5 Pump: Silci a Slac (7843132) 5.15 5 Pump: Ffili (8914126) 5.30 Countdown (300) 6.00 Newyddion (834749) 6.15 Heno (178584) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (652045) 7.25 Cymru Gude (610935) 8.00 60 Seconds (16171) 8.30 Newyddion (7478) 9.00 Tour De France (5478) 9.30 Jeffrey Bernard: Reach for the Ground (40749) 10.00 Brookside (26671) 10.30 American Gothic (88855) 11.30 Cybil (17010) 12.00 Film: Three Colours — Blue (530508)

8.00 Brookside. Max returns from France to a cool reception; Mick is in a distraught state; and Susannah has designs on her former husband (Telex) (s) (1671)

8.30 Absolutely Animals. Research suggests that there is a strong link between animal abuse and child abuse — where there is the former, there is frequently the latter. In America, animal officers are trained to recognise suspected child abuse and cross-refers cases with social workers. Mark Evans is in San Francisco to follow animal welfare officer Luis DeJesus on a number of raids. (Telex) (s) (7478)

9.00 Gunpower USA: Arms Unlimited. (Telex) (s) (3749)

10.00 American Gothic: Meet the Beetles. Sheriff Buck is implicated when the skeletons of three Trinitarians are discovered in a house he owns (Telex) (s) (8538)

11.00 The Naked Truth. Comedy series starring Tia Leoni as a tabloid newspaper photographer (Telex) (s) (8233)

11.30 Cheers (s) (Telex) (s) (17010)

12.00 Century of Cinema: I Am Curious. The contribution of Scandinavia to the development of world cinema. (Telex) (s) (7800546)

1.05 FILM: The Match Factory Girl (1991). A Finnish-made, caustic comedy. With English subtitles (3312966) 2.20am Spanish Dominions (7312966) 2.35 Teen Dreams (s) (5931578). Ends at 3.55

## 6.35am Shirley and George (s) (8730590)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (38045)

8.00 FILM: On Top of Old Smoky (1953, b/w) with Gene Autry, Gail Davis and the Cass County Boys. A musical western directed by George Archainbaud (4589565)

10.05 FILM: The Cowboy and the Lady (1938, b/w) with Gary Cooper and Marie Oberon. Directed by H.C. Potter (80225942)

11.45 The Magic Fluke. Cartoon (1623923) 12.00 House to House (25942) 12.00pm The Road to the Islands. Jack Pizze visits Burgh Island and then, in Plymouth Sound, Drake's Island (32313)

1.00 Sesame Street (s) (58768) 2.00 Channel 4 Racing from Newmarket. Live coverage of the 2.05, 2.35, 3.10, 3.40 and 4.15 races (s) (722710)

4.30 Countdown (Telex) (s) (720) 5.00 Riddi Laka (Telex) (s) (5093132) 5.45 Terrylions (536300)

6.00 Blossom (s) (Telex) (s) (276749) 6.25 Tour De France (523590) 7.00 Channel 4 News (Telex) (850403) 7.55 The Slot (804126)

8.00 Brookside. Max returns from France to a cool reception; Mick is in a distraught state; and Susannah has designs on her former husband (Telex) (s) (1671)

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## RACING 43

DAZZLE PUTS RIVALS  
IN THE SHADE  
AT NEWMARKET

## SPORT

WEDNESDAY JULY 10 1996

## ATHLETICS 46

IS MORCELI RUNNING  
SCARED IN CHASE  
FOR OLYMPIC GOLD?

Drab draw at Trent Bridge coincides with ICC candidate's radical proposals for game

# England achieve series objective

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

TRENT BRIDGE (final day of five): England drew with India

IT PASSED in an atmosphere of echoing emptiness and it was certainly not stirring to watch, but this was, nevertheless, a momentous day at Trent Bridge. After too many years of false hope and punctured ambition, England are winning at cricket again.

The facile reaction to a 1-0 win over India is that the opposition was weak, the series short and unsatisfactory, the significance unproven. All of this will be said in days to come but, within the England dressing-room, it will matter not a jot. The importance, to those involved, is that a home series has been won for only the second time since 1990.

In truth, the other result was likely once England had executed the early knockout at Edgbaston. India had the better of the game at Lord's but approached this final match in a way that indicated they had no belief in their

completing probably his last series in England with another failure and a puny series aggregate of 42 runs. While India leave for home, England are already looking ahead. Raymond Illingworth, midway through his last summer as chairman of selectors, yesterday identified Nasser Hussain, England's man of the series, as the most improved player at his disposal. "He has got a big future — maybe even as captain in the long term," Illingworth said.

Hussain is certainly a welcome alternative, one that has not existed in recent times, but Michael Atherton, the incumbent, might bridle at the suggestion that he will be handing over to a man only five days his junior. Atherton occasionally betrays natural fatigue but he is enjoying life at the moment in charge of a team that has lost only one of its past 11 Tests.

Like everyone else, Atherton is disappointed by the course this match has taken, but on such a slow, unresponsive pitch he believes England could have done little more than they did to lift the mood. It was a poor pitch and a poor game, its tedium exaggerated by the now unfamiliar intervention of a rest day.

Michael Henderson ..... 44  
Outsiders' seek edge ..... 44

ability to level the series. They played seven specialist batsmen against England's five and at no stage did their cricket exhibit the urgency required.

By Saturday it was plain that they could not win and, yesterday, when they began their second innings 43 runs behind, they could scarcely lose; either. Although England bowled with admirable spirit to dismiss India for 211, interest in the closing proceedings, watched by a sparse, silent crowd was, therefore, confined to statistics.

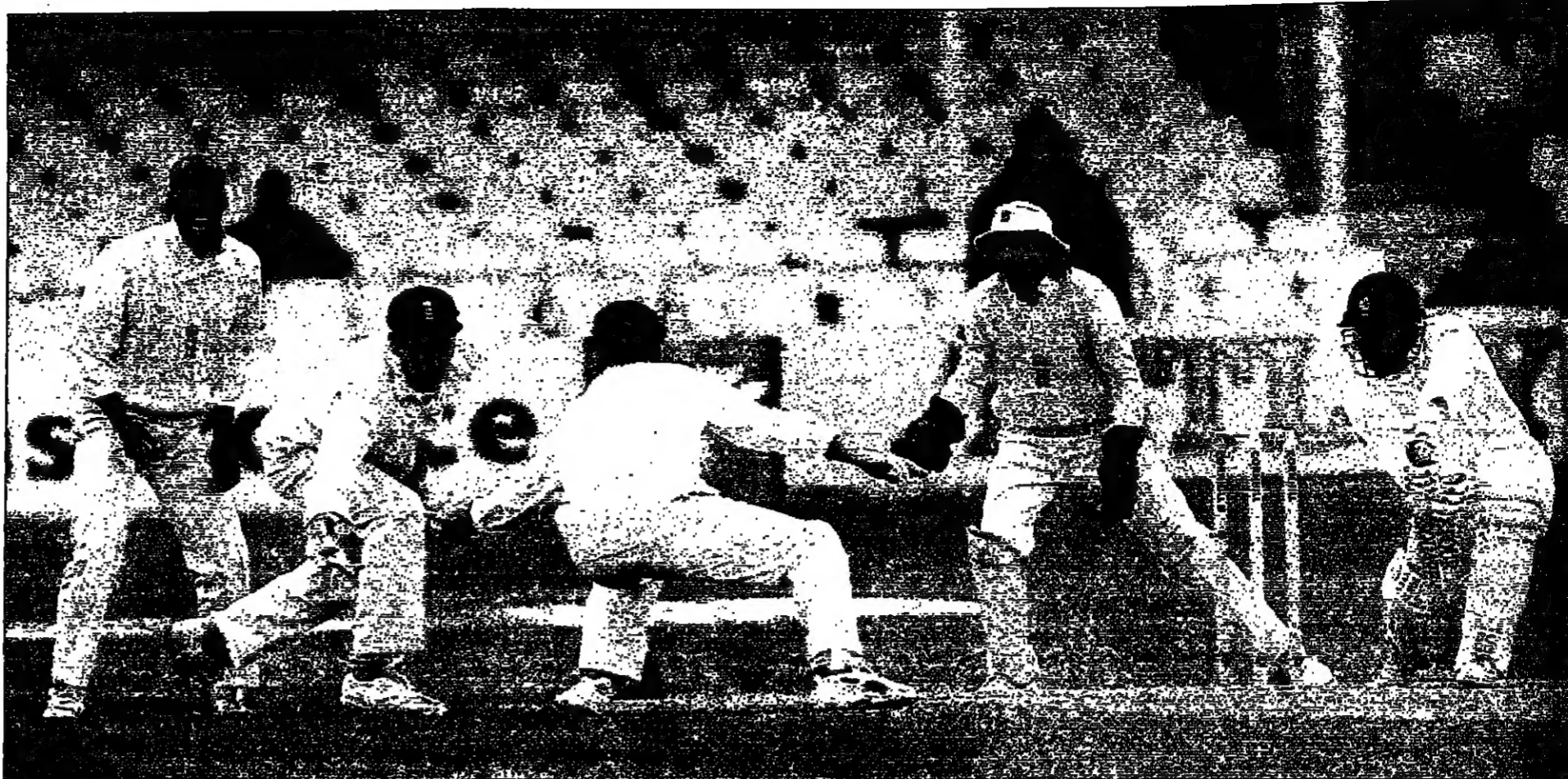
Sourav Ganguly was in pursuit of a third successive century at the start of his Test career, something never previously achieved. Sachin Tendulkar looked to make two centuries in a match for the first time. Neither succeeded, gamely though they tried, and the lingering impression for departing spectators may have been the sadness of Mohammad Azharuddin

three innings and was particularly severe on Min Patel, whose slow left-arm spin lacks the guile and variety to make an impact at this level.

Atherton had to recall Dominic Cork to break the second-wicket stand of 86, Ganguly dropping a defensive shot onto his stumps when he had reached a delightful 48. There are days when bowling changes work as if by routine and Atherton now summoned Mullyali to dismiss Mongia with his first ball.

The rest of a sunlit evening belonged, in equal measure, to Tendulkar and Mark Ealham. While wickets continued to fall around him, Tendulkar played a series of stunning strokes until falling to a rash pull. By then, his aggregate against England had risen to 957 runs at an average of 80.

Ealham took four of the last five wickets to fall, giving him a total of six to go with his half-century. It was vindication for a bold selection. Ealham, and the rest of Atherton's men, can now look forward to a purpose.



Atherton and Graham Thorpe just fail to accept a chance offered by Nayan Mongia off the bowling of Patel at Trent Bridge yesterday. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

## Dalmiya's intent rattles established order

BY ALAN LEE

CRICKET may have surrendered its imperial roots but the traditions that sustain its power base and its priorities are now under threat as never before. The annual meeting of the International Cricket Council (ICC), which opens at Lord's today, will reflect this in a debate that promises to be among the most impassioned, protracted and divisive the game has known.

Until now, the chairmanship of the ICC has never been a contentious issue. By precedent, if not by tacit approval, the position was passed on through the equivalent office of MCC until, with the overdue expansion of the ICC three years ago, Sir Clyde Walcott was elected to the chair unopposed. There will be no such unanimity when Walcott's successor is discussed today.

Three nominations will come before the meeting.

They are Malcolm Gray, of Australia, Krish Mackender, from South Africa, and Jagmohan Dalmiya, secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India and the driving force of the recent World Cup. It is the candidature of Dalmiya, widely suspected of radicalism and personal ambition, that is polarising delegates.

The archaic constitution of the ICC can be thought either villain or saviour of this piece, depending on one's standpoint. As matters stand, any new chairman requires the support of six of the nine full members and none of the candidates will achieve such a majority unless one of them stands down.

Dalmiya has challenged the constitution. He claims to have solicitor's advice that a simple majority should suffice. All concerned are well aware that, if this applied, Dalmiya would win the chair through the carefully courted

support of a vast majority of the minor nations who make up the associate members.

Although Dalmiya sugars the pill by conceding that Test-playing countries should have two votes each against the associates' one, he technically has no prospect of persuading the meeting. A change of constitution also requires the support of a

majority of the Test countries, this time seven out of nine.

Dalmiya can appear plausible. Ignore the oversized rings on his fingers, the wringing of his hands and the hawk-like eyes and simply listen to the moderation. This, anyway, was the purpose of his visit to the Trent Bridge press box this week, when he played down such scurrilous rumours that he planned to do away with Test draws, flood the market with one-day cricket and shift the headquarters of the game to his home town of Calcutta. So is he being unfairly portrayed? "It is for you to judge that," he replied with a disarming smile.

Dalmiya's fortune has been made in the construction industry and his restless mind is now fully directed towards the remoulding of cricket. Some of his expansionist ideas are admirable — indeed, they correspond with the development scheme that the ICC

will today create under the direction of Ali Bacher — but others are considered extreme.

Moreover, his motives are widely questioned. It is believed he puts profit before prudence and, whether one puts this down to jealousy, as the Asian countries undoubtedly believe, it will be enough to ensure a concerted front is raised against him today.

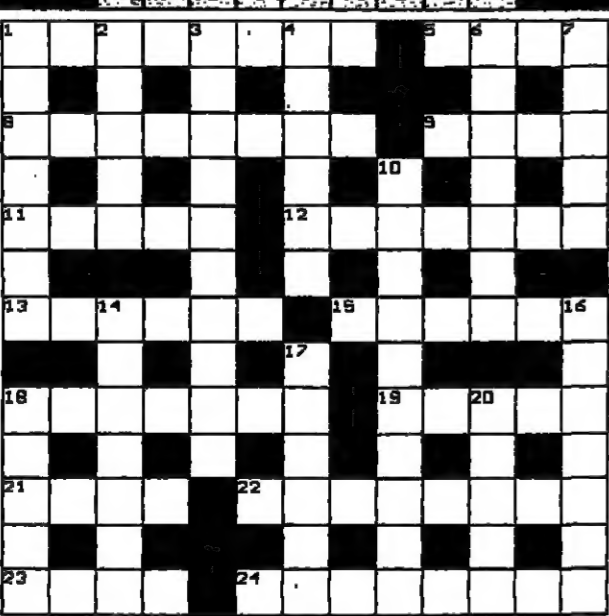
Dalmiya claims to be selfless. "A statesman will not be good for the game," he says of the election. "We are not fighting for our own position but to define terms for the future. Otherwise, this could happen every time the chair falls vacant."

A compromise may only arise after many hours of wrangling. When it does, Walcott will probably agree to stay on, perhaps until 1998, by which time someone acceptable to all — most likely Bacher — may be ready to stand.



Dalmiya: controversial

### TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 830

- ACROSS
- 1 Unprotectedness; liability to risk (8)
  - 5 Potato garden tool (4)
  - 8 One from Honolulu (8)
  - 9 Festive occasion (4)
  - 11 Stunted vegetation (5)
  - 12 Produce feelings of submission; reverence (7)
  - 13 Faint; hard to grasp (6)
  - 15 "The piper's son" (3,3); drum (5,3)
  - 18 Empty talk; threat (7)
  - 19 French composer; tangle (5)
  - 21 Desert watercourse (4)
  - 22 Solemnly renounced (6)
  - 23 Tale; thread (4)
- DOWN
- 2 Competitive weapon-building (4,4)
  - 4 Site of "wonder" Temple of Diana (7)
  - 6 Militarily strong state (5)
  - 7 Pronunciation test-word (judges) (10)
  - 10 Logic; explanation (6)
  - 11 Old land-worker (7)
  - 14 Hang loosely, in folds (5)
  - 16 Life of luxury (3,2,5)
  - 17 Rock; sounds like more daring (7)
  - 19 Confused mixture (7)
  - 20 Keenness, warmth (7)
  - 21 Minor road; pursuit (5)
  - 24 Pansy; stringed instrument (5)

SOLUTION TO No 829  
ACROSS: 1 Pet shop 5 Under 8 Cheer 9 Safe bet 10 Mealy-mouthed 12 Unripe 14 Mantle 17 One's cup of tea 21 Hoarder 22 Graph 23 Maker 24 Mortified  
DOWN: 1 Pick-me-up 2 Theta 3 Hurry up 4 Pistol 5 Unfit 6 Debut 7 Role 11 Detached 13 Ransack 15 Amongst 16 Quorum 18 Sodor 19 Trail 20 Shem

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD 825  
In association with BRITISH MIDLAND  
ACROSS: 1 Striptease 9 Mordant 10 Draft 11 Ernie 12 Stampede 14 Saying 15 Archer 18 Nazareth 20 Bran 22 Tonto 23 Plateau 24 Rhapsodist  
DOWN: 2 Teak 3 In to 4 Tidemark 5 Awake 6 Entrepreneur 7 Impersonator 8 Cranny 13 Enormous 16 Hermes 17 Stupid 19 Zenda 21 Bags

1st PRIZE of a return ticket travelling economy class to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND's domestic or international network is J Lee, Sheffield.

2nd PRIZE of a return ticket to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND's domestic network is F J Bages, Barry, South Glamorgan. All flights subject to availability.

### TRENT BRIDGE SCOREBOARD

India won toss	Mullyali 40-10-88-0 (no 1, w 1, 11 runs, 3-1-0, 2-5-15-0, 3-0-0, 7-1-14-0, 7-2-15-1, 5-3-0, 3-2-1-1, 2-0-15-0, 3-1-0-0, Ealham 28-9-90-2 (13 runs, 6-1-17-0, 6-3-18-0, 6-3-20-0, 3-1-11-1, 5-1-13-0, 3-0-11-1, Patel 24-2-101-1 (no 2, 3 runs, 12 runs, 1-0-0, 5-0-20-0, 9-1-30-0, 1-0-11-0, 1-0-0, 7-1-26-1, Hick 4-1-0-0 (one only), Thorpe 1-0-3-0 (no 1)
INDIA First Innings	ENGLAND First Innings
V Rastogi c Russell b Cork ..... 4	*M Atherton c Manjrekar b Patel 160
*N R Mongia c Russell b Lewis ..... 9	A J Stewart c Mongia b Ealham ..... 50
S R Tendulkar c Mullyali b Mullyali ..... 138	N Hussain retired hurt ..... 107
S R Tendulkar c Patel b Ealham ..... 177	G P Thorpe b b Ganguly ..... 45
S V Manjrekar c Hick b Patel ..... 53	G A Hick c Stewart b Raju ..... 20
*M Azharuddin c Patel b Lewis ..... 84	M Ealham c sub (A Jackson) ..... 51
R Dravid c Russell b Ealham ..... 177	*R C Russell c Mongia b Patel ..... 0
A Kumble b b Mullyali ..... 1	C C Lewis b b Kumble ..... 21
J Smith c Cork b Lewis ..... 1	D G Cork not out ..... 32
B N V Prasad run out (Stewart) ..... 13	S R Tendulkar c Stewart b Lewis ..... 74
S L V Raju not out ..... 1	R Dravid c Stewart b Mullyali ..... 8
Extras (no 6, 12, w 7, nb 13) ..... 38	*M Azharuddin c Cork b Ealham ..... 8
Total (167 overs, 68 mins)	A Kumble b b Ealham ..... 2
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7 (Mongia 3), 2-33 (Ganguly 20), 3-288 (Tendulkar 128), 4-377 (Mongia 31), 5-385 (Mongia 33), 6-445 (Dravid 31), 7-447 (Dravid 31), 8-453 (Dravid 31), 9-512 (Dravid 77)	J Smith c Thorpe b Ealham ..... 3
BOWLING: Lewis 37-10-88-3 (no 2, w 1, 11 runs, 3-1-0, 2-5-15-0, 3-0-0, 7-1-14-0, 7-2-15-1, 5-3-0, 3-2-1-1, 2-0-15-0, 3-1-0-0, Ealham 28-9-90-2 (13 runs, 6-1-17-0, 6-3-18-0, 6-3-20-0, 3-1-11-1, 5-1-13-0, 3-0-11-1, Patel 24-2-101-1 (no 2, 3 runs, 12 runs, 1-0-0, 5-0-20-0, 9-1-30-0, 1-0-11-0, 1-0-0, 7-1-26-1, Hick 4-1-0-0 (one only), Thorpe 1-0-3-0 (no 1)	B K V Prasad not out ..... 0
Total (188.5 overs, 78 mins)	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20 (Atherton 5), 2-30 (Thorpe 21), 3-36 (Patel 8), 4-44	

## United fly in face of Shearer talk

Peter Ball on embarrassment caused  
by speculation over the England striker

The ongoing saga of Manchester United's £12 million bid for Alan Shearer, became a flight of fancy yesterday — but in the best football tradition, it ended with a key player suspended. United's Travel Agents, Travel Management Ltd, suspended one of their employees when Shearer appeared on the list of names United are taking to Milan for their match with Internazionale on July 31.

The news of Shearer's inclusion caused some embarrassment for United, who have made no secret of their desire to sign the England striker. "I suspect this is over optimism on the part of the travel agent, or a sense of humour," Maurice Watkins, the United solicitor, said yesterday.

Supporters responded to the hope of seeing Shearer's first game in United's colours on home ground by buying up United's allocation of 7,000 tickets for the Umbro tourna-

ment at Nottingham on August 3 and 4. "It is just Shearermania," Roger Bromhall, the tournament organiser said.

Elsewhere it was just mania. One tabloid newspaper reporter got caught in a bomb scare and trapped in Manchester airport after going to check out a report that Watkins was flying to Heathrow en route to the Bahamas yesterday afternoon to meet Shearer, who is on holiday there. Watkins was in court yesterday, and the British Airways flight for Nassau left Gatwick before midday.

The humour — and the excitement — was lost on Blackburn Rovers, who have continually insisted that they are not going to sell Shearer. "Alan Shearer is booked on a

flight — with us on our pre-season tour of Holland, a week after the trip to Milan," Tony Parkes, the assistant manager, said. "Why these stories continue to rumble on I just don't know. But it is unsettling for us and for our supporters, with the damaging effect on things like season tickets."

But although Blackburn have said that Shearer is staying, informed sources continue to insist that he will move. That may require him to ask for a transfer, something he has so far failed to do.

Any moves though will now be delayed. Blackburn have given him permission to delay his return from holiday after his exertions for England, and he will not join his team-mates

when they report back for pre-season training next week.

If Blackburn were annoyed and United embarrassed, it was even worse news for Travel Management. Suggestions that they have decided to become agents and move players around as well as teams can be discounted.

"We accept full responsibility," Ian Dunwoody, chairman of the company, said yesterday. "Travel Management have suspended a member of staff, and I apologise unreservedly to Manchester United, Blackburn Rovers and Mr Shearer."

Shearer may yet go to Italy anyway. AC Milan have expressed interest. Yesterday Marcello Lippi, the Juventus coach, revealed his admiration for the England striker when he said that the loss of Gianluca Vialli and Fabrizio Ravanelli would not weaken the European Cup holders.

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"I look like I did 10 years ago" The Sun  
"Bowled over by his hair" Daily Express  
"Hair Apparent" The Times  
"I did something about it! It's sensational. I've swum with it and even been in the sauna." Graham Gooch

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